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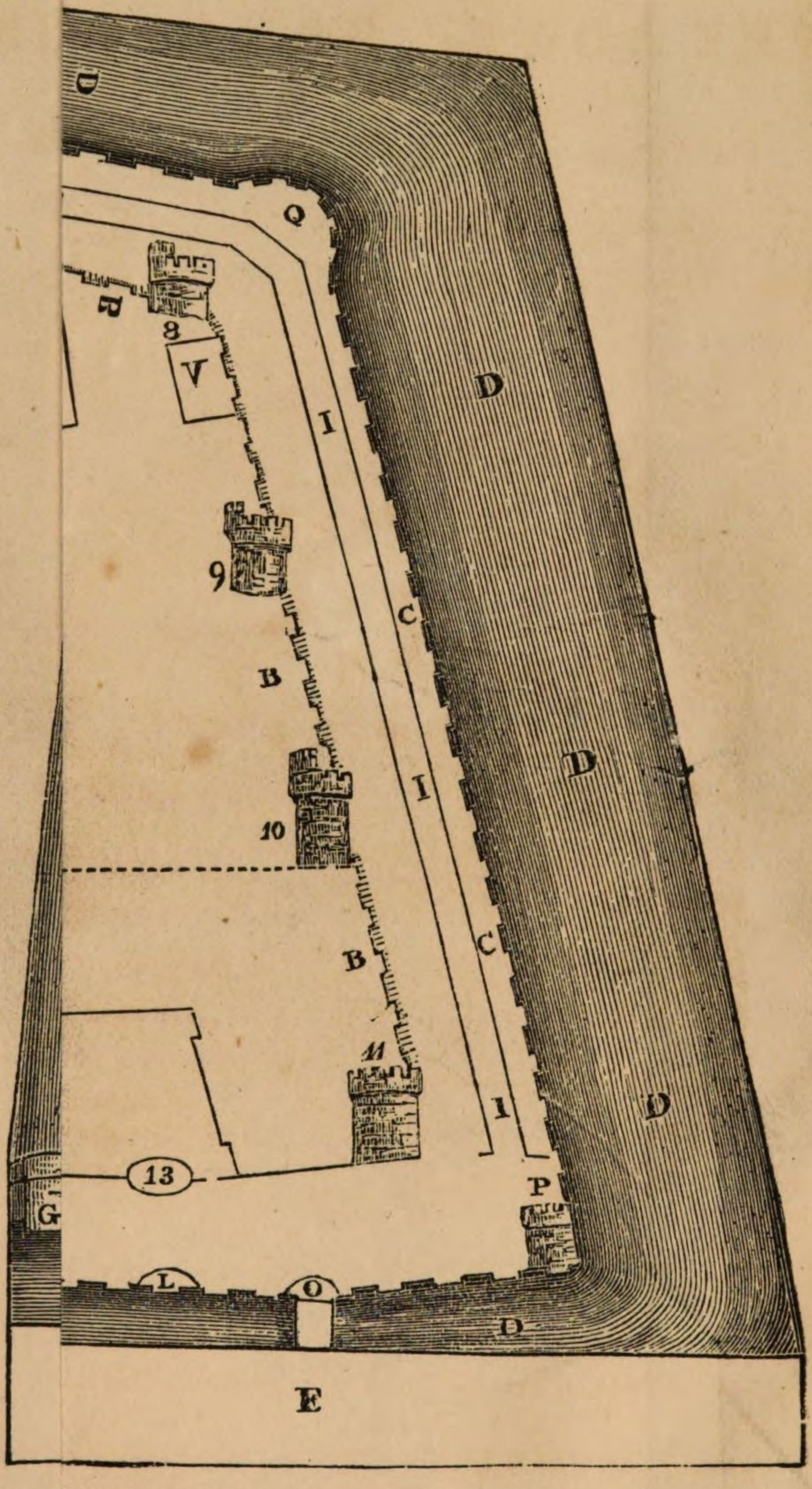
Sketches

GUIDE TO THE Tower of London.

Price, SIXPENCE.] [1867.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SKETCHES

OF

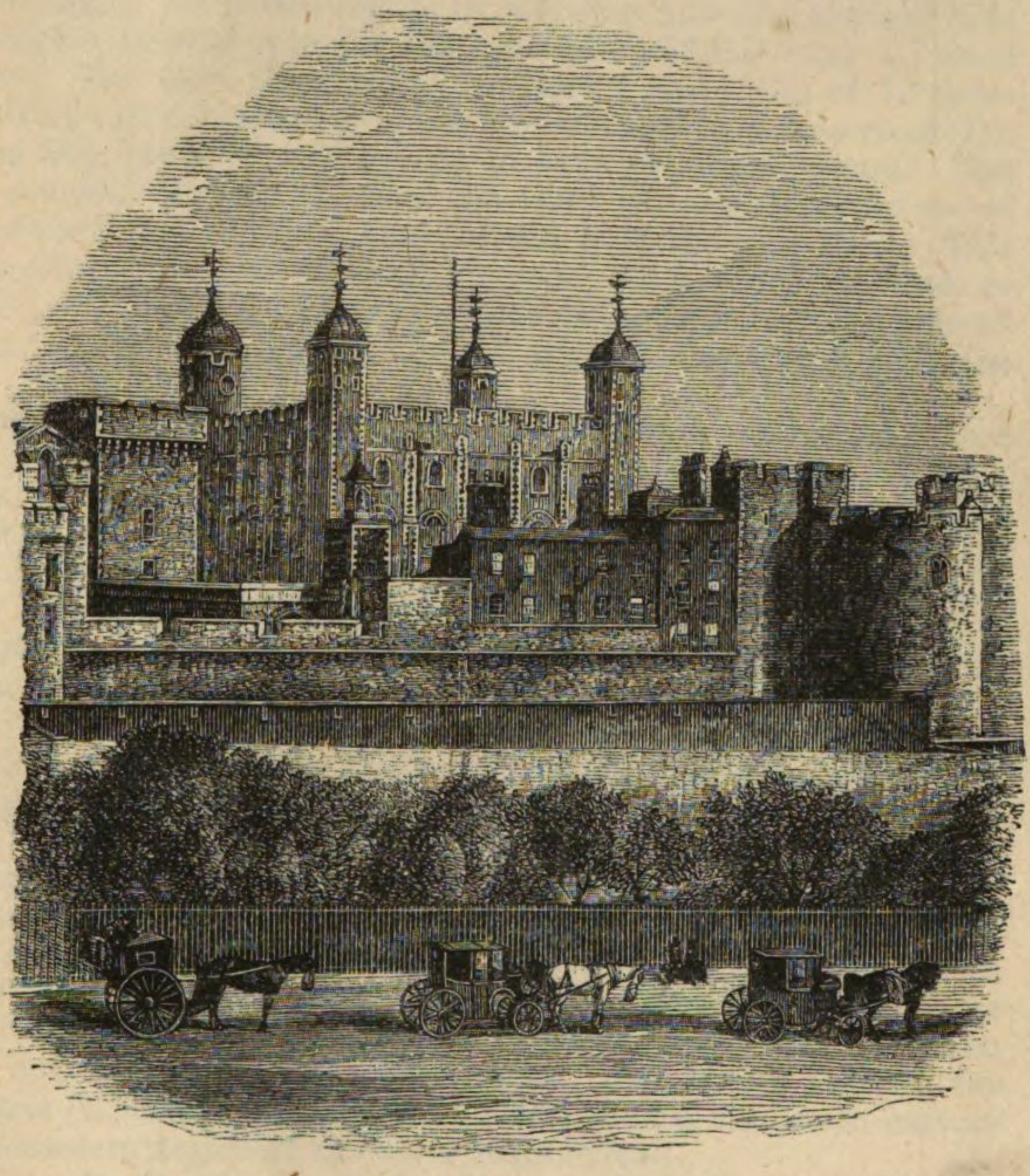
THE TOWER OF LONDON,

AS A

FORTRESS, A PRISON, AND A PALACE,

Beautifully Illustrated from Photographs,

BY MR. A. HARMAN, GUNNERSBURY VILLAS, ALBERT ROAD, PECKHAM.



GENERAL VIEW OF THE TOWER.

ALSO,

A GUIDE TO THE ARMORIES.

LONDON:—J. WHEELER, 3, CHURCH TERRACE, BERMONDSEY.

Also, at the Armoury Ticket Office, Tower.

1867.

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLAN.

In approaching the Tower of London, the keep or citadel of the fortress is seen rising conspicuously above the rest of the pile. This is the White Tower (A). It occupies the central part of the fortifications. It measures 116 feet from north to south, 96 feet from east to west, and 92 feet in height. It is surrounded by a double line of walls and bulwarks, which constitute severally the inner (B) and the outer (C) ward or ballium. The outer ballium wall encloses a superficies of 13 acres 1 rood. This outer rampart, again, is encompassed by a deep moat (D), measuring 990 yards, or half a mile in exterior circumference. The moat is supplied with water from the river Thames, but motives of salubrity have led to its being kept drained since the year 1843. This moat is separated from the river on the south by a raised platform or wharf (E), which is from 40 to 50 yards in breadth. It is mounted with cannon. Two temporary bridges connect the wharf with the fortress.

The principal entrance to the Tower is at the south-west angle, where a stone bridge crosses the moat. This bridge is defended at each extremity by the Middle Tower (G) and the Byward Tower (H). Having thus entered the Outer Ward (C) a narrow street (I) is seen on the left hand. This street extends round the fortress, the southern side excepted. Here were the buildings appropriated to the Mint, which is now removed to a handsome edifice on Tower Hill. Passing on from the Byward Tower (H) between the southern sides of the inner (B) and the outer (C) ballium walls, a strong tower and water gate are seen on the right hand. They secure a channel which runs under the wharf (E), connecting the river Thames with the moat (D). These are St. Thomas' Tower (K) and the Traitor's Gate (J). By this entrance state prisoners were brought into the fortress. A few yards beyond are the remains of the Cradle Tower (L), where a gateway formerly crossed the avenue between the inner and outer wards. It led to the palace. (O) marks the site of the Well Tower, and (P) that of the "Tower leading to the iron gate" at the south-east angle of the outer ballium wall. The iron gate was on the opposite side of the moat. Two strong bastions, the Brass Mount (Q) and the Legge Mount (R), defend the north-eastern and north-western angles of the outer ballium wall.

Having made the circuit of the outer ward, and returning to the Traitor's Gate (J), the inner ward (B) is entered by a noble gateway, the Bloody Tower (1). A stone embattled wall surrounds the inner ward. Flights of steps lead to the top of the wall, which is in places 40 feet in height and 12 feet thick. It is connected with and defended by 12 strong towers, standing at unequal distances from each other, and varying in form. These towers remain, boldly conspicuous. They were most of them formerly used as prison-lodgings.

The White Tower (A) occupies the centre of the inner ward. Against its southern wall is the Horse Armoury (S), a modern building, completed in 1826, in which are arranged equestrian statues of our kings in

ancient armour. Immediately opposite to the Horse Armoury is the Military Store Office (T), which partly occupies the site of the ancient palace that was taken down in the reign of James II., 1683-88. This royal residence stood in the space between the southern side of the White Tower (A) and the Salt Tower (11) in the south-east angle of the inner ward. The new barracks (U) are to the north of the White Tower. The first stone of this building was laid by the late Duke of Wellington (then Constable of the Tower) in 1845. This was the site of the Grand Storehouse destroyed by fire in 1841. In the north-east angle of the inner ward is the New Jewel House (V), where the crown jewels have been kept since 1842. It is close to the Martin or Jewel Tower (8). In the opposite (the south-west angle of the inner ward) is the Governor's House, formerly called the Lieutenant's Lodgings (W). In the north-west angle of this ward is the Chapel of St. Peter (X), erected in the reign of Edward I., 1272—1307.

NAMES OF THE TOWERS OF THE INNER WARD.

1. Bloody Tower.
2. Bell Tower.
3. Beauchamp Tower.
4. Devereux Tower.
5. Flint Tower.
6. Bowyer Tower.
7. Brick Tower.
8. Jewel Tower.
9. Constable Tower.
10. Broad Arrow Tower.
11. Salt Tower.
12. Record Tower.

ACCOUNT OF THE WARDERS.

The warders were anciently the servants of the Constable of the Tower, employed by him to guard the prisoners and watch the gates; but, through the influence of the Good Duke of Somerset, Protector during Edward VI.'s minority, as a reward for their attention to him whilst a prisoner in the Tower, they were appointed extraordinary yeomen of the guard; and they have ever since worn the livery of that body, which was instituted by Henry VII. The honour of the appointment is generally bestowed on veterans who have distinguished themselves in their country's service.

REGULATIONS.

[THE Government having determined that in future persons desirous of seeing the Armouries at the Tower should be admitted at a reduced fee, the following Regulations have been ordered by the Constable of the Tower and the Board of Ordnance, to be attended to by all persons concerned, to commence 1st May, 1838, viz.:—

"The Armoury Ticket Office at the Entrance-gate has been opened for the sale of Tickets of Admission to the Armouries, at SIXPENCE each person.

"The Ante-room to the Armouries is for the reception of the Parties who have obtained their Ticket at the Ticket Office, until conducted by the Warders, who will be ordered to attend them from *ten* o'clock until *four* o'clock, and will take round the Armouries, EVERY HALF HOUR, those who have assembled there.

"The Visitors, on proceeding to the Armouries, will please to deliver their Tickets to the Warder, for him to hand over to the Armoury-keeper; and they are requested not to touch any of the articles in the Armouries.—No fees to be demanded."]

The above regulations regard the Armouries only. The CROWN JEWEL OFFICE *is not at all connected with the War Department, and the Fee of Admission to view the* REGALIA *is* SIXPENCE *each person.*

INTRODUCTION.

No one in whose breast an interest in the annals of his country has been awakened, can approach with indifference this royal castle of our forefathers. As we descend Tower Hill, the hoary walls of the ancient pile rise before us amidst the surrounding mass of more modern buildings, grim witnesses of a bygone age. They remain amongst us symbols of the rugged times when, amidst the struggles resulting from ill-defined rights and uncontrolled passions, were laid the mighty foundations of our country's present prosperity and peace. Dark shadows of the past enshroud the gloomy fabric; but they serve to throw into stronger relief the justice and the liberty, the intelligence and the refinement which illuminate our day. Whilst contemplating the Tower of London, the mind spontaneously reverts to the Norman conquest; an event which, although it burst upon our island as a devastating storm, we look back upon with interest, as contributing to the subsequent more vigorous development of national character. The Normans, or "Northmen," were a noble and a gifted, although a fierce race of men; and this last of the scions destined to be ingrafted on the parent-stock from the surrounding nations, to form the complete Britain of after-ages, introduced into it many an element of excellence.

Amidst the terrific conflict which sprung from the Norman's ruthless endeavour to quench that spirit of liberty in the bosom of the Saxon which has ever proved indomitable, the Great or White Tower arose. The patriot citizens of London so spurned the iron rule of him who sought to crush them, that the policy of the Conqueror would lead

him to provide some stronghold adapted at once to shelter himself and to awe the rebellious. The massive grandeur of the structure erected by William fitted it well to accomplish these ends. The site, too, was wisely chosen; just without the city, eastward; on the northern banks of the river Thames, where the ground is gently elevated above the neighbouring marshes of Essex and the low ground of Surrey. Thus the Tower of London was the offspring of our country's tempestuous morning. As the storms gradually subsided, and constitutional freedom shone forth with steadier and brighter ray, the frowning donjon of the Normans occupied a less prominent place in our nation's history. And now, in the zenith of Britain's prosperity and peace, when the various races are perfectly blended into one harmonious whole, and the Norman and the Dane, the Roman and the Celt are best known amongst us as having imparted grace and spirit to Saxon vigor, the gloomy old pile is almost lost amidst the all-pervading light. And the Tower is become to most of us but a memento of past conflicts and of weathered storms. For some centuries, it was a favorite object with William's descendants to fortify with walls and towers the mighty citadel. The first chapter in this little work contains a sketch of these various structures, with slight notices of those which have arisen near to our own time. The second chapter considers the Tower as the chief fortress of our monarchs, and as the depository, in times of peace, of the national arms and accoutrements. The third chapter records some of the most interesting captives of the Tower. The fourth and last chapter presents to the visitor a few fragments gathered up from our old chroniclers of the Annals of the Tower as a Royal Palace.

SKETCHES OF THE TOWER.

CHAPTER I.

The Towers of the Outer Ward.

Having taken, by means of the Plan, a rapid survey of the Tower of London, in order to obtain a clear general idea of the whole, we will proceed to a nearer inspection of the several structures, commencing with the Outer Ward, the principal fortifications of which consist of a chain of small towers on that side of the fortress next the Thames, all of which were erected in the latter part of the reign of Henry III., 1216-72. The approach to the Tower used to be defended by considerable out-works, but these have been removed. The visitor enters the fortress by

1. The Middle Tower, formerly called the Martin Tower.—This is a strong portal, flanked with bastions, and defended by gates and a portcullis. The upper part is of comparatively modern construction. This Tower protects the entrance to the principal bridge. Each bastion contains a guard-room for the porters.

2. The Byward Tower.—This tower resembles the Middle Tower. Standing at the south-west angle of the fortress, it forms the principal entrance to the exterior line of fortifications.

3. The Traitor's Gate, or St. Thomas's Tower.—This is a large square building built over the moat, the outer line of which is protected by two circular towers. These towers exhibit in the interior interesting specimens of the early pointed architecture of Henry III.'s reign. This tower is now appropriated to the raising of water, and contains a steam-engine. The passage underneath, by which state prisoners entered the Tower, is guarded by two strong water gates.

4. The Cradle Tower.—Only the lower part of the original structure remains. It forms a curious vaulted gateway, which led in former times to a drawbridge. The

upper portion of the tower seems, in early times, to have been connected with the apartments of the palace.

5. The Well Tower.—The lower part is all that exists of the original; it consists of a vaulted chamber about 15 feet long by 10 wide.

6. The Develin or Iron Gate Tower.—Its situation is now occupied by a stone building of modern date; very little of the original structure remains, which, in 1641, is described in one of the Harleian manuscripts, as an "old ruynous place."

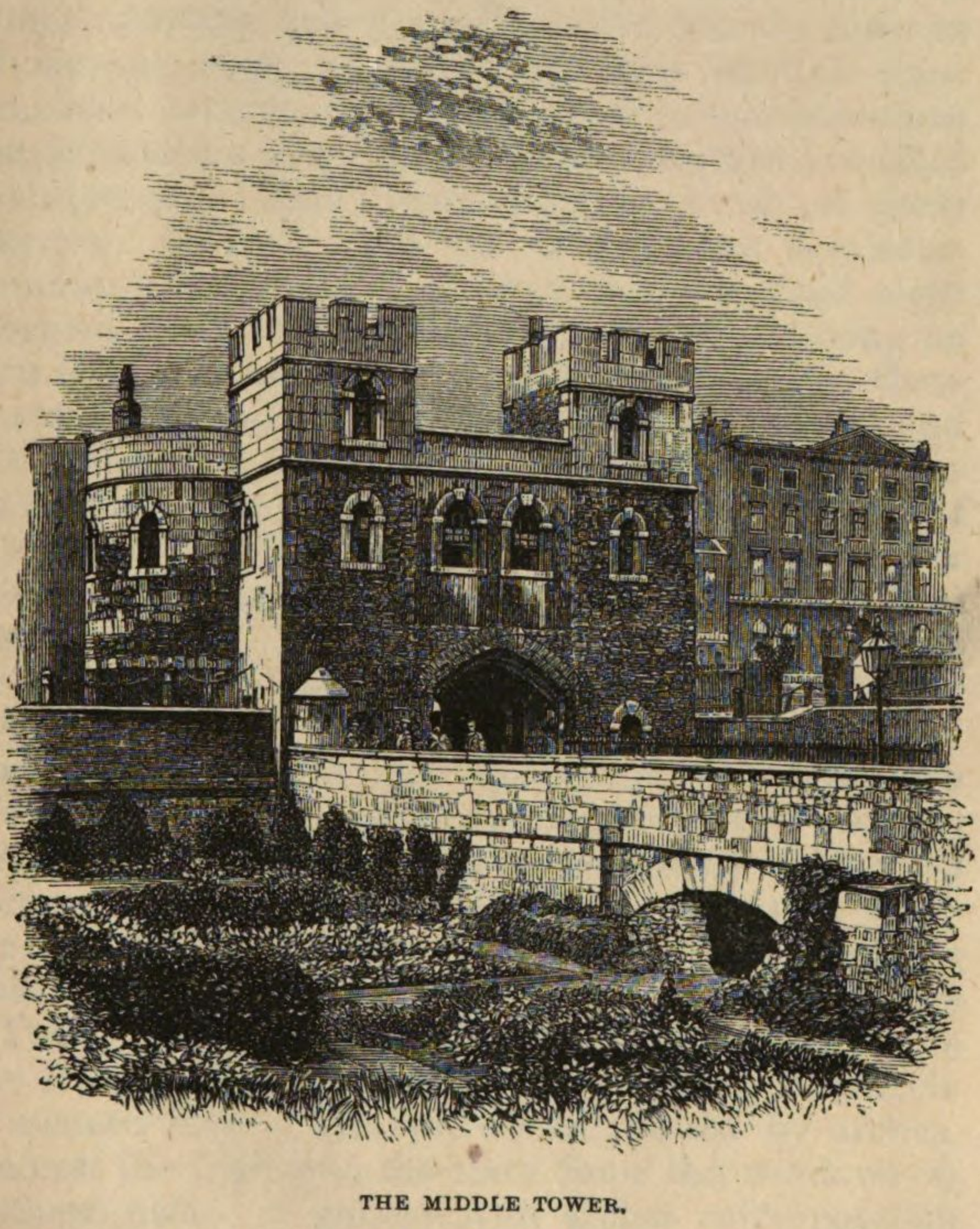
The space between the outer and the inner ballium walls on the eastern, northern, and southern sides, used to be occupied with brick buildings (now most of them removed), in which were regularly carried on the works of the Royal Mint, from the early part of the reign of Edward III., 1327-77, till about 1810, when the Mint was removed to the handsome building on Tower Hill.

The towers above-named, with the lofty ramparts of the outer ballium wall, and the surrounding moat, completed the fortifications of this outer ward.

THE WHITE TOWER.

Amongst the numerous Normans who possessed the rich sees of our land in the days of the Conqueror, was Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester. Notwithstanding his office, he exercised his eminent abilities as a military architect. William entrusted to him the erection of his New Fortress, 1079-80, and the result was the magnificent specimen of Norman architecture now before us. This massive quadrangular structure occupies, as is seen in the plan, the central part of the Inner Ward. It measures 116 feet from north to south, and 96 feet from east to west. The height is 92 feet. It is embattled, and has watch towers or turrets at each angle. The roof is covered with lead. It consists of three lofty stories, besides the spacious vaults in the basement floor. The external walls are 15 feet in thickness. Traces of a large archway on the north side, seem to point out the original grand entrance. In some ancient pictures a representation of this doorway is to be seen. There are modern entrances of smaller size, both on the north and south sides.

The communication between the stories is by a spacious



THE MIDDLE TOWER.

(From the East.)

staircase in the north-east extremity of the building. The *newel*, or circular column, around which the stairs wind, is a curious specimen of ancient masonry. There are also staircases in the north-west and south-west angles, commencing only on the first floor. A wall seven feet thick, extending north and south, divides the three stories from the base to the summit of the building. Another wall, extending east and west, subdivides the southernmost of the former divisions into unequal parts; thus forming in each story one large apartment and two smaller ones. The smallest division on the first floor is now known as "Queen Elizabeth's Armoury." This room has a vaulted roof, exhibiting a highly interesting specimen of early construction. On the north side of the room is a doorway communicating with a cell ten feet long and eight wide, formed in the thickness of the wall, and receiving no light but from the entrance. Tradition states that these apartments were the prison of Sir Walter Raleigh, and that here he wrote his History of the World. The inscriptions near the entrance to the cell are those of Rudston, Fane, and Culpeper; all implicated in Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion in 1553, which proved so fatal to Lady Jane Grey. We have no further account of these prisoners. Sir Thomas Wyatt was beheaded on Tower Hill, 1553.

Immediately over this last apartment, occupying the space from the first floor to the roof, is ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL, "one of the finest and most perfect specimens of Norman architecture" to be found in this country. It has a semicircular termination at the eastern end (which will be observed in the south-eastern view of the exterior of the White Tower); and the twelve massive pillars which divide the nave from the aisles are also arranged in a semicircle at the eastern end. The pillars are united by arches, which admit the light into the nave from the windows in the southern aisle. A gallery with arches corresponding to those below is above the pillars. The columns, arches, &c., of this interesting Chapel are all faced with well-finished stones, retaining the marks of the tool, and laid in courses with thick joints of mortar. In the reign of Henry III., 1240, that great patron of the arts, three windows of stained glass were added to the Chapel. A Chaplain constantly performed divine service here, for which he received fifty shillings yearly at the Exchequer.

At what period it was stripped of its ornaments and furniture, and when it ceased to be used for religious purposes, is unknown.

The largest room in the upper floor was used as a Council-room when our kings held their court at the Tower. "This almost unrivalled apartment bears every appearance of high antiquity, and its massive timber roof and supporters harmonize with the grand features of the other parts of the building." Here the Council is said to have been assembled when the Protector Richard, Duke of Gloucester, ordered Lord Hastings to instant execution in front of St. Peter's Chapel. Not the slightest vestige of a fire-place, or of a well, has been discovered in any part of this majestic edifice. The Council-chamber, together with the Banqueting-room, are now used as Depositories for Small Arms. The arrangement of these Weapons and their Implements in various groups and devices, so as to resemble flowers, &c., has been carried out with great artistic skill.

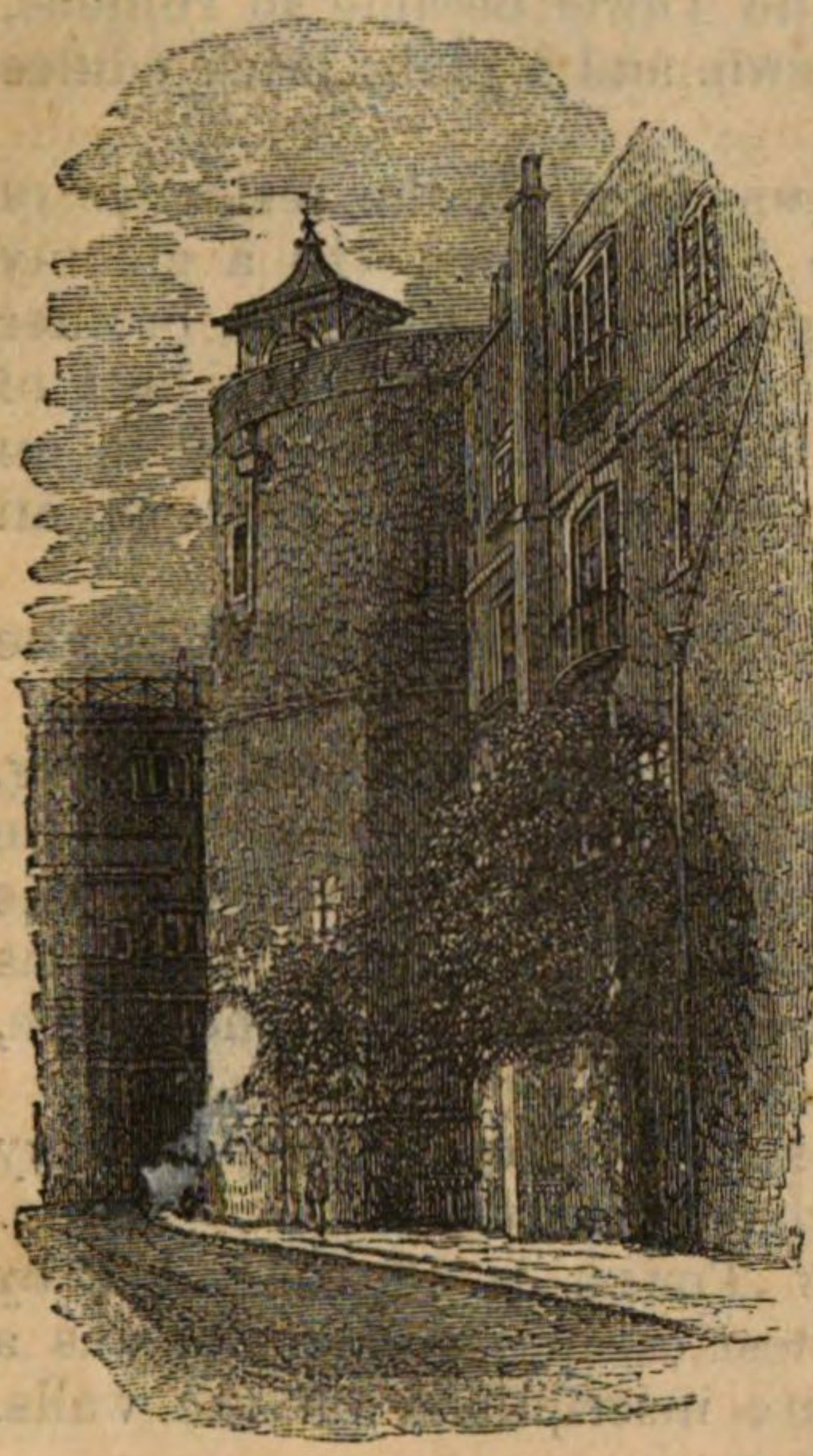
War Stores are now deposited in every part of the White Tower, Queen Elizabeth's Armoury excepted.

The stone structure which forms a wing to the eastern side of the White Tower is occupied by the Military Store Office as a Depository for Books and Papers. The lower story was probably erected in the fourteenth century. The upper was added at the commencement of this century.

THE TWELVE SMALLER TOWERS OF THE INNER WARD.

1. The Bloody Tower.—This is the only rectangular tower belonging to the Inner Ward. It adjoins the Record Tower on the western side. The noble gateway under it is judged to have been erected in the time of Edward III., 1327. This gateway forms the main entrance to the Inner Ward; it is 34 feet long and 15 feet wide. The massive gates and portcullis at the southern end bear marks of great age; those that were at the north end have been removed. This tower is the traditionary scene of the murder of the royal children, the two sons of Edward IV., 1483.

2. The Bell Tower—is so called on account of its being surmounted by the alarm-bell of the garrison. It was anciently a prison-lodging. The venerable Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, is said to have inhabited this tower when imprisoned by Henry VIII.; it is also asserted that this was Queen Elizabeth's prison-lodging when in the Tower.



THE BELL TOWER.

3. The Beauchamp Tower is so interesting as to demand a section by itself. (See page 7.)

4. The Devereux Tower derives its name from Robert Devereux, the chivalric Earl of Essex, the favorite of Queen Elizabeth. His course was a brilliant one, as a soldier and a courtier, but fortune forsook him in his government of Ireland. Enemies at home prejudiced his sovereign against him. Essex made imprudent attempts to remove these enemies from their place of influence over the Queen, which ended in his being arraigned in Westminster Hall, and charged with plotting against the life of Elizabeth. He was pronounced guilty, and condemned to die. Elizabeth's long struggle between resentment and affection, before she could sign his death-warrant, is well known; she did sign it, and Devereux was (at his own request) privately beheaded on the green within the tower in front of the chapel. Thus, at the early age of thirty-four, was cut off the "bravest general, one of the most active statesmen, and the brightest Mæcenas of that accomplished era." The walls of this tower are 11 feet in thickness; the interior diameter 19 feet. Secret passages seem to have led from this tower to the vaults under St. Peter's Chapel, and to the Beauchamp Tower.

5. The Flint Tower.—The narrow dungeons of this tower gave it the name of Little Hell. The foundation walls only remain; for the Old Tower became so ruinous, in 1796, that it was pulled down, and a plain brick edifice was erected in its stead.

6. The Bowyer Tower was formerly the residence of the Master Provider of the King's Bows. In a gloomy chamber in this tower, George, Duke of Clarence, brother of Edward IV., is said to have been drowned in a butt of malmsey wine, 1474. The fire of 1841 originated in an upper chamber of this tower, which was used as an armoury work-shop.

7. The Brick Tower.—Tradition assigns this as the prison-lodging of Lady Jane Grey.

8. The Jewel, or Martin Tower.—A prison-lodging. The jewels of the crown were formerly kept here. The name of Anna Boleyn is inscribed on the walls of this tower. It has been suggested that the inscription was made by one of the unhappy gentlemen imprisoned here, who lost their lives on her account.

9. The Constable Tower—A prison-lodging—is very similar in plan to the Beauchamp Tower.

10. The Broad Arrow Tower is so concealed by official buildings that it almost escapes notice. It was a prison-lodging, and there are inscriptions on the walls. It adjoined the ancient palace.

11. The Salt Tower is one of the most ancient buildings in the fortress. It was a prison-lodging. A curious astrological device remains on the walls; the work of a person imprisoned there in Elizabeth's reign for using enchantments to the hurt of "Sir W. St. Lowe and my Ladye." The site of the Lantern Tower is between the Salt and the Record Towers; it was removed to make way for the Military Store office. The basement vault was used as a cellar not many years since.

12. The Record Tower.—Also called the Wakefield Tower, from the imprisonment of the Yorkists there, after Margaret's victory at Wakefield, 1460—and, anciently, the *Hall* Tower, from its vicinity to the Great Hall of the palace. Like the Salt Tower, it is very ancient; they were both probably built in the reign of William Rufus, 1087. The basement story, especially, "is formed of regular courses of fine well-squared masonry," and is

evidently of the Norman age. This is the largest tower in the fortress, except the White Tower. The apartments are octagonal, and the lower one is 28 feet in diameter. The walls are 13 feet in thickness. There is every probability that the Records of the Nation were kept in this fortress in the earliest Norman times. The upper chamber of the Record Tower is known to have been their depository since the reign of Henry VIII. They have been lately removed to the Record Office in Chancery Lane.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BEAUCHAMP TOWER.

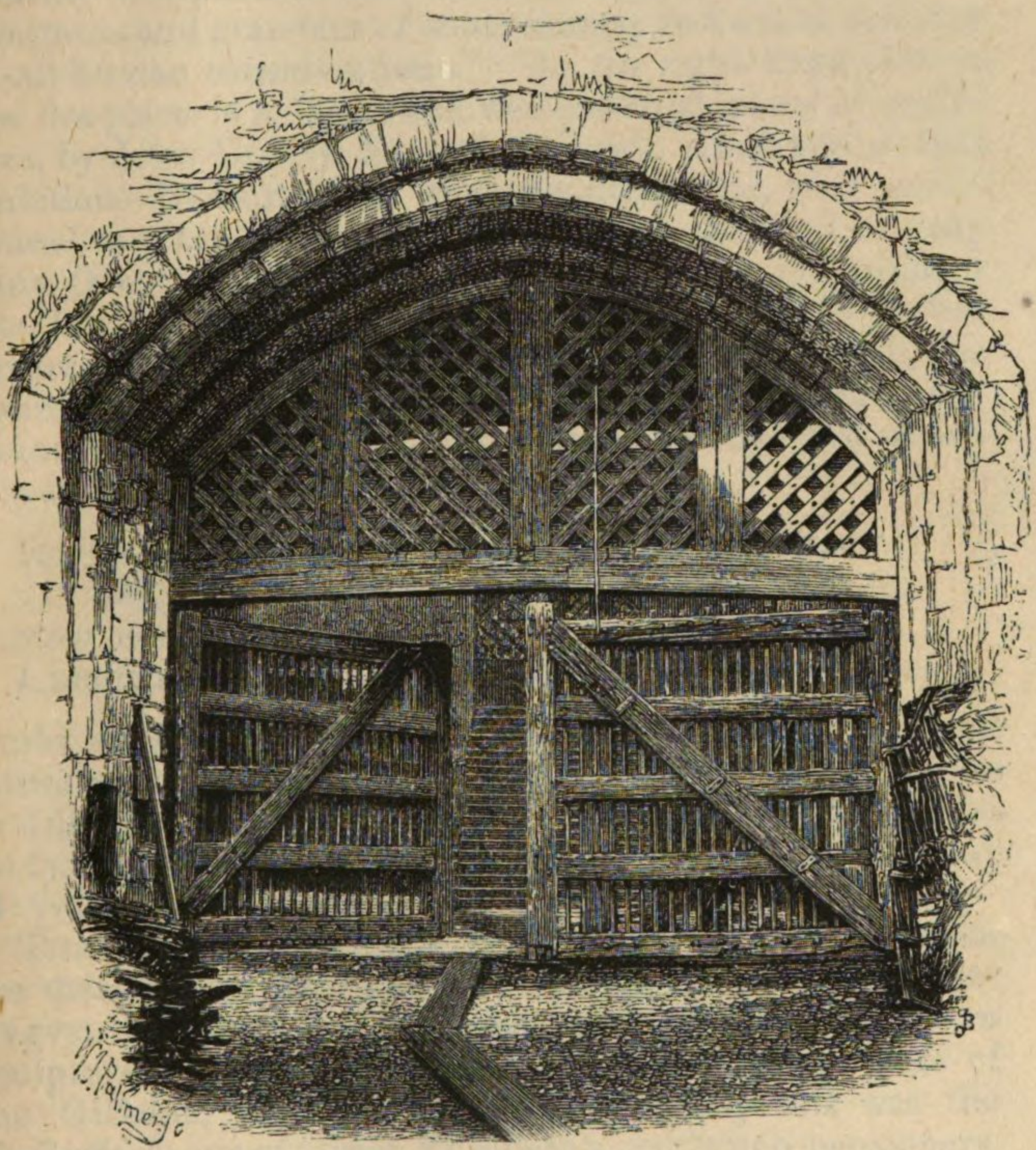
The style of architecture of this tower is that of the reigns of John, 1199, and Henry III., 1216. This was the period when most of the smaller towers of the fortress were erected. The name is supposed to have been derived from Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, who was immured here in Richard II.'s reign, 1397. It has also been known as the Cobham Tower, some members of the family of that name having been imprisoned here in Mary's reign, for taking part in the rebellion of Sir Thomas Wyatt. This tower occupies the central part of the western side of the inner ward. It projects from the ballium-wall in a half circle. It consists of two stories; to which access is obtained by a circular staircase and narrow passages, which last are formed within the substance of the wall, which is 15 feet thick in the eastern part, and 8 feet thick in the circular part. The large apartments are about 20 feet square; the south-western and north-western angles being cut off. The large apartment on the first floor is entered on the south side. (Opposite to this entrance are two small cells, probably intended for the better securing of prisoners by night). Near the entrance, westward, is the name of MARMADUKE NEVILE. He is supposed to have been one of the family of the Neviles, Earls of Westmoreland, who, in the reign of Elizabeth, took so active a part in the rebellion in favor of the claim to the English throne of Mary Queen of Scots, for which offence Charles Nevile, the earl, and fifty others, were attainted of high treason and outlawed. Near to this is a large piece of sculpture containing three wheat sheaves, the arms of the Peverels; and, also, a crucifix; a bleeding heart, a skeleton, and the word "Peverel." This is supposed to be one of the

Peverels of Devonshire. There is another sculpture by the same person in the north-east recess, in the form of a horse-shoe.

THE SOUTHERN RECESS.—On examining the southern recess we find on the right side inscribed in old Italian, "Dispoi che vole la fortvna che la mea speransa va al vento pianger, ho volio èl tempo perdvdo: e semper stel me tristo e discontēto, WILIM: TYRREL, 1541." "Since fortune hath chosen that my hope should go to the wind to complain, I wish the time were destroyed; my planet being ever sad and unpropitious." It has been conjectured that this was the William Tyrrel who addressed two letters from Malta, in 1534, to the lord prior of St. John, at Jerusalem, who was then in England, respecting the war with the Turks. Tyrrel may have been a Knight of the Order of Malta, and acquired his knowledge of Italian during his expeditions against the Turks. *Over the Fire-place* is the interesting autograph of PHILIP HOWARD, Earl of Arundel, eldest son of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, who was beheaded in 1572, for aspiring to the hand of Mary, Queen of Scots. Philip having forfeited the title of Duke of Norfolk by the attainder of his father, took that of Earl of Arundel, as owner of Arundel Castle, in Sussex, by descent from his mother. His earnest devotedness to the Romish religion made him enemies in the court of Elizabeth; and, wearied out by the dangers and annoyances to which they subjected him, he resolved to leave his friends, his country, and his wife, and to become a voluntary exile. He addressed a pathetic letter to the Queen, stating his reasons for the step, intending her to receive it after his departure; but it fell into the hands of the ministry, who apprehended the earl as he was on the point of setting sail from an obscure creek on the Sussex coast. He was then sent to the Tower, 1586-7. At this period, he wrote the inscription over the fire-place: "Quanto plus afflictionis pro Christo in hoc sæculo, tanto plus gloriæ cum Christo in futuro. Arundell, June 22, 1587." "The more suffering with Christ in this world, the more glory with Christ in the next world." The next year, 1588, he manifested so much delight when the Spanish Armada entered the channel, and so earnest a desire for its success, that he incurred the heavy displeasure of the Queen. He was judged guilty of high treason, and condemned to death: but, as he was convicted solely on religious grounds, he was suffered to

THE BYWARD TOWER.

(From the West.)



THE TRAITOR'S GATE.

linger in prison. On his condemnation he besought his judges to allow his wife to visit him with their infant son, whom he had not yet seen; but this favor was refused, though he earnestly renewed his petition towards the end of his life. Worn out with sorrow, and with the religious austerities he practised, he expired in the Tower, 1595, aged 39. "In person he was very tall and rather of a swarthy complexion, but with an agreeable mixture of sweetness and grandeur of countenance, and a soul superior to all human considerations." On the right hand side of the fire-place is a large and well-executed piece of sculpture, by John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, eldest son of that ambitious Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, who endeavoured to place the crown of England on the head of Lady Jane Grey (who was united in marriage to his younger son Lord Guildford Dudley). The device is 13 inches square, with a lion and bear grasping the ragged staff, the family badge. These are represented on a shield, sur rounded by a border of oak leaves, acorns, and roses. These words are inscribed—

YOW THAT THESE BEASTS DO WEL BEHOLD AND SE,
MAY DEME WITH EASE WHERFORE MADE HERE THEY BE,
WITH BORDERS EKE WHERIN .....
4 BROTHERS NAMES WHO LIST TO SERCHE THE GROUNDE

Ambrose, Robert, Guildford, and Henry Dudley, with their father and elder brother, were all imprisoned in the Tower in July, 1553, in consequence of the rash attempt to make Lady Jane Queen. The Duke was beheaded, but the Earl of Warwick died in prison.

THE WESTERN RECESS.—On the side next the fire-place are these words, "DOLOR PATIENTIA VINCITVR. G. GYFFORD. Avgvst. 8. 1586." In another part of the room is a sculpture by the same person, representing the arms of the Giffords, of Worcestershire. Probably this was the G. Gyfford, one of Queen Elizabeth's gentlemen pensioners, accused of an attempt to poison her. CHARLES BAILLY was an emissary of Mary Queen of Scots. In the spring of 1571, he was seized at Dover as he was on his way to the Bp. of Ross, Mary Queen of Scots' friend and adviser, with a packet of letters from the Pope's agent. He was put to the rack, and at length consented to answer all Lord Burleigh's questions; he was probably soon dismissed. There are several inscriptions also made by this

man, in various parts of the room. Near to the western recess on the right, is the autograph of Dr. John Store, a learned lawyer, who, in the reign of Edward VI., made himself so conspicuous in favor of the Romish religion, that he was obliged to retreat to Flanders, but he returned to England on Mary's accession. The chancellorship of Oxford being bestowed upon him, he was very active in prosecuting Protestants. When Elizabeth came to the throne Dr. Store was a member of the House of Commons, and spoke warmly against the Reformation. He refused to take the oath of supremacy after he had been committed to the Tower, and he finally suffered a cruel death at Tyburn, June 15, 1571. Near to this western recess is also a long memorial by William Rame, 1559, probably one of the many Romish ecclesiastics who were deprived of their benefices and committed to the Tower at the commencement of Elizabeth's reign. Near the *North-western Recess* is the name of Edmund Poole, and in different parts of this Tower there are also several interesting memorials of his elder brother. These gentlemen were the great grandsons of the unhappy George, Duke of Clarence, who is supposed to have been murdered in the Bowyer Tower (the grandsons of the Countess of Salisbury, of whose death and the fearful scene on the scaffold there is a sketch in the Tower, as a prison). Arthur and Edmund Poole were accused of conspiring to place Mary Queen of Scots on the English throne, of aspiring to her hand, and similar charges. They were adjudged to be traitors. However, the Queen spared their lives. They both remained in captivity, pining away the rest of their days within the Tower; where they at length died, and were buried in St. Peter's Chapel. The following inscriptions by Arthur Poole are on the *North-side* of the room, dated two years after his imprisonment. "Deo servire, penitentiam inire, fato obedire, Regnāre est. A. Poole, 1564. IHS." The other contains these words—"IHS. A passage perillus makethe a port pleasant. Aº 1568. Arthur Poole. Æ sue 37. A. P." Edmund Poole has left several interesting memorials in this Tower; two in the apartment over head, which express the same pious submission that so beautifully characterises those of his brother. One is dated 1568, at the age of 27. The other contains these words—"IHS. Dio semin..in lachrimis in exultatione meter. Æ 21 E. Poole, 1562." "That which is sown by God in tears is reaped in joy."

Immediately under the first autograph of Edmund Poole, near the north-western recess, is the word IANE, which is believed to be the royal title of Lady Jane Grey. It is obvious that she was not imprisoned in this Tower; as at the period of her captivity it was occupied by the Dudleys. Severe as was the treatment of state delinquents, women of distinction, when committed to the Tower, were generally sent to the lieutenant's or some other respectable officer's house. We read of Lady Jane being at "Master Partridge's lodgings;"—and Anna Boleyn occupied apartments in the palace, the few days previous to her execution.

It is highly probable, Mr. Bayley thinks, that it was the husband of Lady Jane, Lord Guildford Dudley, who thus traced the name so sacred to him. Fox, in his Book of Martyrs, states that Lady Jane traced with a pin on the wall of the room in which she was immured these words in Latin:

"To mortals' common fate thy mind resign
My lot to-day to-morrow may be thine."

Diligent search has been made in every part of the Tower of London likely to bear an inscription from this the most interesting of all the captives of the fortress; but the search has been fruitless.

Between the *Northern Recess* and the entrance to the cells is the autograph of Thomas Fitzgerald (son of the Earl of Kildare). He lost his life at Tyburn in 1539, in Henry VIII.'s reign, for rebellion in Ireland. Near this is the name of Adam Sedbar, or Sedburgh, the 18th and last Abbot of Joreval, Yorkshire. He was committed to the Tower with several other noblemen, prelates, and gentlemen, for favoring Aske's great rebellion in the North against Henry VIII. and his secretary Thomas Cromwell's Reformatory proceedings in the North of England. He was executed at Tyburn in 1537.

On the *Eastern side* of the room the autograph possessing most historical interest is that of "EGREMOND RADCLYFFE, 1576. Pour Parvenir." He was the only son of the Earl of Sussex. Young, of a haughty spirit, and a papist, he was engaged in the rebellion against Elizabeth in favor of Mary, Queen of Scots, in the northern counties, 1576. After this he fled and wandered about in voluntary exile, in Spain and Flanders, until reduced to extreme wretchedness. He wrote to Lord Burleigh, earnestly intreating him to intercede for him with the Queen, that she would allow

him to return to England. However, upon his finding Elizabeth inexorable, he came without her permission. He was then committed to the Tower. Egremont was finally banished, when he entered into the service of Don John of Austria, was suspected of being a spy in England's service, sent by Queen Elizabeth's secretary, Walsingham, to assassinate Don John, and was ordered to be executed before Namur by the Emperor of Austria.

The upper chamber in this tower has also been used as a state prison. But there are not many interesting inscriptions. On the right hand side of the window is the Italian inscription of Edmund Poole, to which allusion has been made; and on the opposite side of the window is another with the name, T. SALMON. Over the device containing his arms and crest, three salmons, are the words:—"Close prisoner 8 monethes, 32 wekes, 224 dayes, 5376 hours." No account can be found of this prisoner. The tradition that this prison-lodging was inhabited by Anna Boleyn is proved to be a mistake by history. The letter addressed to the Secretary Cromwell by the Governor of the Tower, Sir William Kyngston, proves that this unhappy lady's last earthly abode was the Royal Palace.

Besides these Towers, the following structures within the precincts of the Inner Ward merit attention.

CHAPEL OF ST. PETER.—The Church or Chapel of St. Peter ad Vincula, in the north-west angle of the Inner Ward, of which a notice is given at the close of Chapter III. (The Tower as a Prison).

LIEUTENANT'S LODGINGS.—The Lieutenant's lodgings or Governor's house (in the south-west angle). This is an inconvenient building, chiefly of timber, erected in Henry VIII.'s reign. In the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Margaret, Countess of Lennox, the mother of Lord Darnley, and grandmother of King James I., was imprisoned in this house on account of the marriage of her son to Mary, Queen of Scots. The persons implicated in the Gunpowder Plot, 1605, were examined by the Council in a room on the second floor.

MILITARY STORE OFFICE.—See "Tower as a Fortress," page 13.

NEW JEWEL HOUSE.—See "Regalia." (In the north-east angle).

NEW BARRACKS.—The large new building to the north

of the White Tower is appropriated to the troops. It occupies the site of the "Grand Storehouse" burnt down in 1841. The first stone was laid by his Grace the late Duke of Wellington, then Constable of the Tower, 1845.

CHAPTER II.

The Tower as a Fortress.

During the eight centuries which have elapsed since the Tower of London first frowned upon the waters of the Thames, it never has sustained an attack from a foreign enemy. When the horrors of war have raged around and within the fortress, they have been kindled by the rude passions and domestic strife of England's own sons. In glancing back at the events of the past, we find that the ancient pile has felt the shock of all the most violent internal convulsions which have agitated the nation.

Whenever in earlier ages the reins of government were guided by a weak or an unskilful hand, the immediate effect was the breaking out into open strife of those fierce spirits which characterized the age. Thus when Stephen was upon his usurped throne; during the reigns of King John, of Edward II. and Richard II., the Tower was the scene of sieges and tumults. During the wars also of the houses of York and Lancaster, and those of Charles I. and his parliament and nation, the possession of this fortress was an object of much importance. If as a palace and a prison the Tower only has a place in history, it still remains with us an impregnable fortress. Britons are quite willing to take this for granted; long may it be before the Tower has occasion to prove the mightiness of its strength. Long may the echoes of the venerable structure rest unaroused by the roar of cannon, save when their rough rejoicings give expression to its sympathy with the nation in some auspicious or august event!

MILITARY STORE OFFICE.

As the principal magazine of warlike stores in the kingdom, we find continual reference to arms, armour, and engines deposited in the Tower of London, from the times of our earliest Norman kings.

In the time of Henry III., 1216-72, the principal officer connected with these seems to have been "the Balistarius" or keeper and provider of the cross-bows. Later we read of the "Galeator," who had the care of the helmets; of the king's armourer, the bowyer, and the fletcher, who provided and kept the arrows. In the 15th century (Henry IV.—Henry VII.), we find these different branches under the direction of a principal officer, styled, "the Master of the King's Ordnance."

The business of the Military Store Office was formerly carried on in some small houses behind St. Peter's Chapel, but on the removal of part of the old palace in James II.'s reign, a new office was erected, 1683-85, which was burnt down in 1788, when the present building was raised on its site. A large part besides of the interior of the fortress is occupied by the storehouses, the armouries and residences of officers belonging to the establishment. (The head quarters of the Military Store Office are now in Pall Mall.)

Ancient Cannon.—Outside the horse armoury will be found a collection of ancient cannon. The origin of gunnery is lost in the obscurity of the middle ages. Spain, Italy, the East, all have claims to the invention. Some historians, Rapin amongst them, attribute it to the English, and assert that they gained the victory at Crecy through its instrumentality. Cannon were originally made of iron—bars of iron welded together with iron hoops over them. Stones were shot from these cannon.

In 1418 Henry V. ordered the clerk of the works of his ordnance to procure labourers for making 7000 stones for guns in the quarries of Maidstone, Kent. The piece No. 15 is a gun of this description. The earliest brass gun in the Tower collection is No. 10, time of Henry VII., 1485—1509. No. 18 is a large brass gun of the reign of Henry VIII. Artillery were first cast in England in this reign. The first foundries were set up in Houndsditch. Here, too, will be found a brass and an iron gun recovered from the wreck of the Royal George; two brass guns taken from the Spaniards at Vigo, in 1702; two brass guns captured from the French at Cherbourg; an iron gun, which, after having lain three hundred years at the bottom of the sea, was recovered from the wreck of Henry VIII.'s ship the "Mary Rose;" a Chinese gun captured in 1842, with a long Chinese inscription on it. Also several

mortars are ranged before the Horse Armoury; they are a kind of short cannon of large bore, to throw hollow shells filled with powder, which, bursting on their fall, destroy every thing within reach.

THE HORSE ARMOURY.

This grand fortress of our monarchs has been the depository of the national arms and accoutrements from the time of its erection. The ancient records of the kingdom contain many documents relating to the warlike stores preserved in and issued from the Tower. The idea of exhibiting armour on equestrian statues of our kings seems to have originated in Charles II.'s reign. Armour having been superseded at the close of the 17th century by the general use of fire-arms, the stores were returned to the Tower. Additions were made from various sources, until the collection contained most interesting specimens of armour and of weapons, of almost every age of English History. But discrepancies and anachronisms prevailed in the arrangement. William the Conqueror appeared in plate armour, which was unknown for centuries after his death; and Henry V. was equipped partly in the armour of Charles I., and partly in that of Henry VII.! At length, about 30 years since, Sir S. Meyrick's "Critical Inquiry into Ancient Armour" threw light upon the obscure subject, drew public attention to it, and finally induced government to request Sir S. Meyrick to undertake the historical arrangement of the Armouries. It was also decided to erect the New Horse Armoury, which was completed 1826. This structure is about 150 feet in length, and 34 in breadth. The windows are of stained glass, the centre compartments of which are ancient, and contain coats of arms, and scriptural subjects; the latter exceedingly well painted. Several military trophies and emblems adorn the walls and ceiling; the visitor's attention to these will be amply rewarded. The centre of the apartment is occupied by equestrian figures, wearing suits of armour of various periods, between the reigns of Edward I., 1272, and James II., 1683. The vestibules at the east and west ends of the building also contain curious collections of arms.

Opposite to the equestrian figures, and beneath the

windows on the south side of the Horse Armoury, are arranged several glass cases, containing numerous interesting objects; which are noticed here that the visitor may refer to them as he passes onward.

Suit of Greek armour, in fine preservation. It was found in a tomb at Cumæ, and consists of helmet; breast-plate, with embossed head of Medusa, and other ornaments; back-plate; neck-piece, embossed with a comic mask; belt; knee-pieces; greaves; spear-head; and dagger in case. The form of the helmet leads us to suppose that this suit originally belonged to some distinguished ancient warrior.

Etruscan helmet of bronze; variety of Celts and ancient British axes, swords, and spears, of bronze; leaden pellets of Arcadian slingers, found within the ancient Greek fortress of Samos, in the island of Cephalonia.

Swords, spears, daggers, and anelaces. An Irish weapon called a Spaath, found near the Giant's Causeway; British battle-axe, found in the river Thames in 1829; Roman spear-head; Saxon daggers and battle axes; a dagger of the time of John, and coutelace of the time of Henry VI., 1422-61. Dagger and large knife, spear-head and battle axe, found in an ancient tomb, at Manheim, Germany; also Roman weapons excavated on the banks of the Tiber.

Sword (broken) found at Newbery, Berks, with characters incised on the blade and inlaid with iron; an ancient sword found near the Giant's Causeway; a sword found under the house occupied by Sir Christopher Wren, with the remains of the building burnt at the Fire of London; and other ancient arms.

Chased and engraved specimens of armour. In the centre a solleret (or iron shoe), having a spur attached; two vam-plates for tilting lances; helmets; gauntlets; specimens of chain mail.

Variety of very curious daggers and swords; with flint and wheel locks, &c.

Powder-horns, flasks, &c. Among which, a warder's horn with the arms of Henneberg, and a carved horn with portrait of John Sobieski.

A curious collection of ancient spurs, &c.

Variety of maces.

The visitor to the Armouries, if the subject be new to him, will inquire—What are the kinds of armour dis-

tinctive of different periods? To meet this, it will be well to observe that at the time of the Norman conquest, body armour was made of leather, cut into small pieces in the form of fish-scales, or of flat rings of steel, both of which used to be sown on to cloth or deer-skin. The leather armour sometimes was painted of various colours. The shield was kite-shaped; the offensive arms were the long cutting sword, and the lance, ornamented with its gonfanon or streamer.

Chain mail was first introduced in the reign of Henry III., 1216-72, by the Crusaders, from Asia, where it is worn to this day. It is constructed of a number of little rings which interlace one another so as to form in themselves a connected garment.

On entering the Horse Armoury, the warder proceeds to introduce visitors to the equestrian figures. The first of these bears the name and date of

Edward I., 1272.—The effigy of this monarch stands apart from the centre line, on a raised platform in the north-west corner of the room. The suit consists of a Hauberk with sleeves and chaussées (covering of the legs and feet), all of chain mail; a hood with camail (the piece of mail hanging over the shoulders). The spurs are of the ancient kind, called prick-spurs. The kite-shaped shield of the Normans had been superseded at this time by the square-topped. The king is represented in the act of drawing his sword.

It will lend an interest to this armour to remember that this was the age of Bruce and of Wallace, and that in such suits were lost and won the fields of Dunbar and of Bannockburn.

Henry VI., 1422-61. Considerable alterations had taken place in armour since the time of Edward the First. Suits of mixed chain and plate armour were introduced in the reign of Edward the Second. (A specimen of such armour is on the north side of this apartment.) The plates were worn on the arms and legs. In Edward the Third's reign armour became very splendid, so that knights who might otherwise have been taken prisoners were killed for the sake of their spoil. The finest suits were from Milan. In the reign of Henry V., the hero of Agincourt, complete armour of plate came into use. In the figure before us, the back-plate and breast-plate are

formed of plates of armour overlapping one another and moving on pivots, so as to yield to the movements of the wearer. This is called flexible armour.

EDWARD IV., 1461-83.—Equipped for the tournament. The figure is armed with a tilting lance which is modern; but its vam-plate is ancient and very curious. The saddle is a fine specimen of a war saddle, though of a somewhat later date. A spiked chanfron defends the horse's head. His black housing is powdered with the king's badges—the white rose and sun.

RICHARD III., 1483-85, (knight of the time of.) Armour at this time attained its perfection. The suit before us is of the kind called ribbed armour. The fine proportions of the body-armour are best seen from behind The helmet is a salade furnished with ear-guards, *oreillets*.

Such armour as this was worn in the wars of York and Lancaster, and at Bosworth-Field.

HENRY VII., 1485—1509.—This suit of armour is of the fluted kind, which came into vogue in this reign, with a globular breast-plate, passe-gardes on the shoulders, and burgonet helmet. An ancient sword is in the right hand, and a battle axe hangs from the bow of the saddle, which is of the war kind, armed with the steel front and cantle. The armour of the horse also fluted, but of a different pattern from the man's, deserves particular attention, being the first that has presented itself exhibiting a complete suit of horse armoury (the flanchards excepted).

The warder will now probably point out the figure on a pedestal near the south wall of "a swordsman" of this period: the latter part of Henry VII.'s reign. This is a suit of fluted globose armour.

HENRY VIII., 1509-46.—This is the first suit of the collection which is known to have belonged to the monarch whose effigy it adorns. The armour is damasquined (inlaid with gold; an art invented at Damascus). It consists of tilting-helmet, gorget, back and breast plates, with placcate, garde-de-reins, pauldrons, with *passe-gardes*, (an addition to the pauldrons made in Henry VII.'s reign; they were to turn away the thrust of a lance.) Rere and vam-braces, gauntlets, (the left a tilting one). Tassets, demi-cuisses, genoullières, jambs, and square-toed sollerets.

In the right hand is a martel-de-fer. A short sword is worn at the saddle-bow, a long one at the waist.

Between this figure and the next is a rare specimen of an Italian splinted cuirass of the description worn by the banditti at the close of the 15th century.

CHARLES BRANDON, Duke of Suffolk, 1520.
EDWARD CLINTON, Earl of Lincoln, 1535. } These two suits resemble that of Henry VIII.

Opposite, against the wall, is a foot soldier of the time of Henry VIII., 1540. The raised figures of polished steel on a dark ground have an excellent effect.

Also, here is a cap-à-pied suit of armour of Henry VIII's. It it described in the old inventories as "rough from the hammer." It is formed throughout of moveable splints. The hands rest on a sword. The next figure which claims attention is in the middle recess in the southern wall. It is another effigy of Henry VIII. on horseback. It is considered to be one of the most curious suits of armour in the world. It was probably presented to Henry on his marriage to Katherine of Arragon by the Emperor Maximilian.

This union with Katherine forms the subject of many of the ornaments engraved on the surface of the armour. The badges of the king and queen, the rose and pomegranate, are seen in many places. The device adopted by Ferdinand, King of Spain (Katherine's father), on the conquest of Granada, *the sheaf of arrows*, is seen on the fans of the knee guards. Various saintly legends are engraved on the suit. The figure of St. George on foot encountering the dragon is seen on the breast-plate. This armour is doubtless of German manufacture. Skirts, such as are seen in this figure, in imitation of folds of cloth, were called *lamboys*, and begun at this period to supersede the taces and tassets. Under glass cases in this recess are two helmets; one of them, especially, having designs and chasings of the most exquisite workmanship. The visitor will find attention to the different kinds of helmets interesting. We have already had the salade helmet on the figure of Henry VI., the burgonet helmet on that of Henry VII. Doubtless it has been observed that the wall, between the entrance and the recess, is adorned with a variety of helmets, spears, and other arms; but they are not of a kind to demand especial notice here.

To return to the centre line.

EDWARD VI., 1552.—This is russet-armour. The metal being oxidised, and the surface afterwards smoothed, it is

then inlaid with gold. Rich arabesque work covers the suit. The helmet is a burgonet. The horse armour is very curious; and those capable of judging pronounce that it probably belonged to the young Duke of Burgundy, afterwards King of Spain, and the father of the Emperor Charles V. Philip of Burgundy had married Isabella, Queen Katherine's sister. On their passage from Flanders into Spain, they were obliged by a storm to take shelter in England, where they remained for a time; and it has been suggested that this armour was presented to Henry VIII. by Philip on his leaving the island.

Francis Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon, 1555, reign of Queen Mary. The weight of armour at this time became very great. Knights used to faint under the weight of their panoply, and when unhorsed could not rise.

Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, 1560.—There is not the slightest doubt that this suit was worn by the Earl; it is a tilting suit. His initials R.D. are engraved on the knee-guards and the family badge of the Dudleys, the bear and ragged staff, appears on the chanfron of the horse. The ragged staff is repeated in every part of the suit.

Sir Henry Lee, 1570.—Master of the Armouries to the Queen.

Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, 1581.—This suit of armour is richly engraved and gilt. The horse bridle is curious from the great length of the checks of the bit.

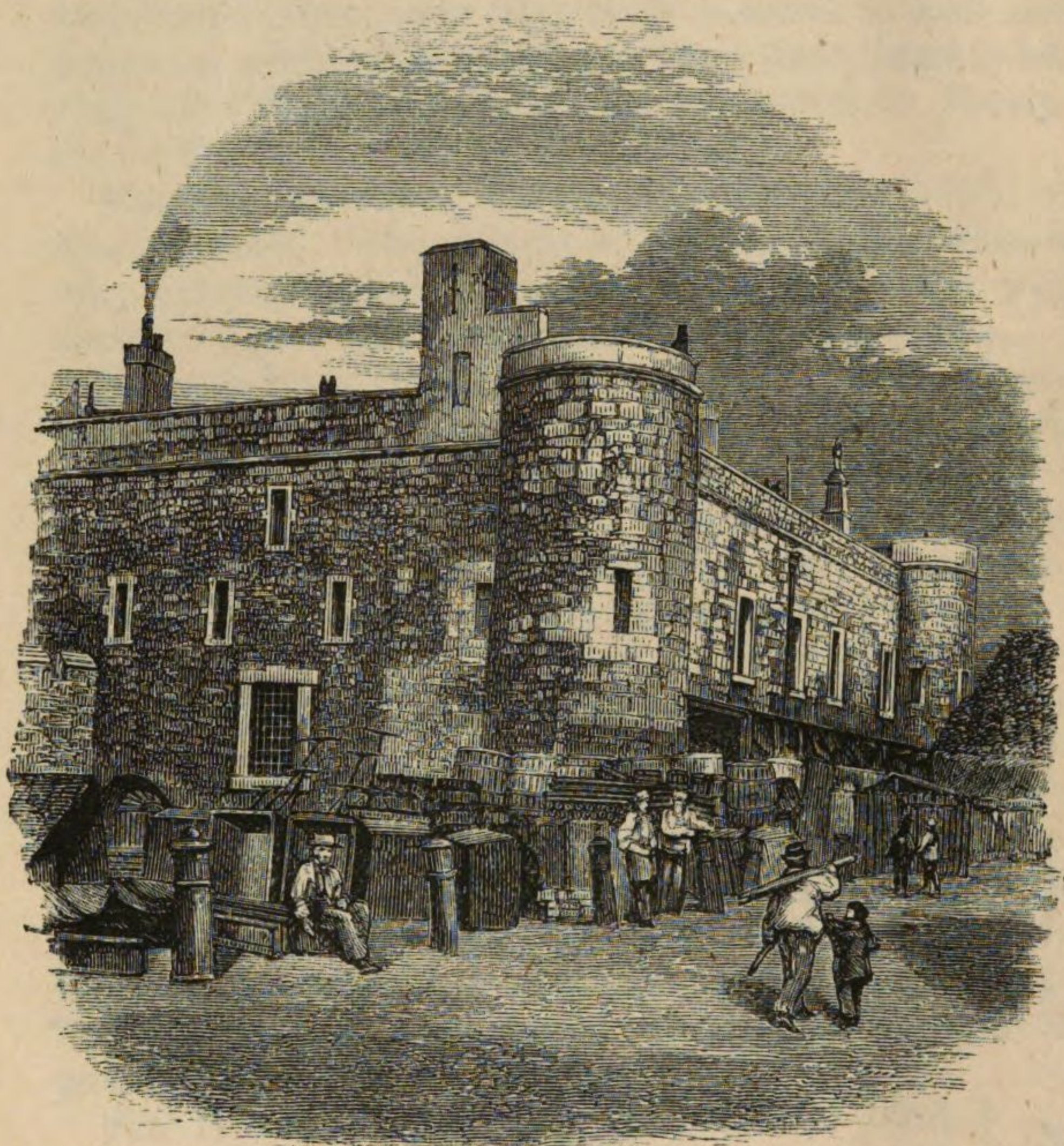
James I., 1605.—A plain suit of tilting armour. The burdon, or lance for running at the ring, being made hollow, has an appearance of greater weight than it possesses.

Sir Horace Vere, Captain-General, 1606.
Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, 1608. } Nothing new is presented in the fashion or workmanship of these suits. Both figures are armed with a mace.

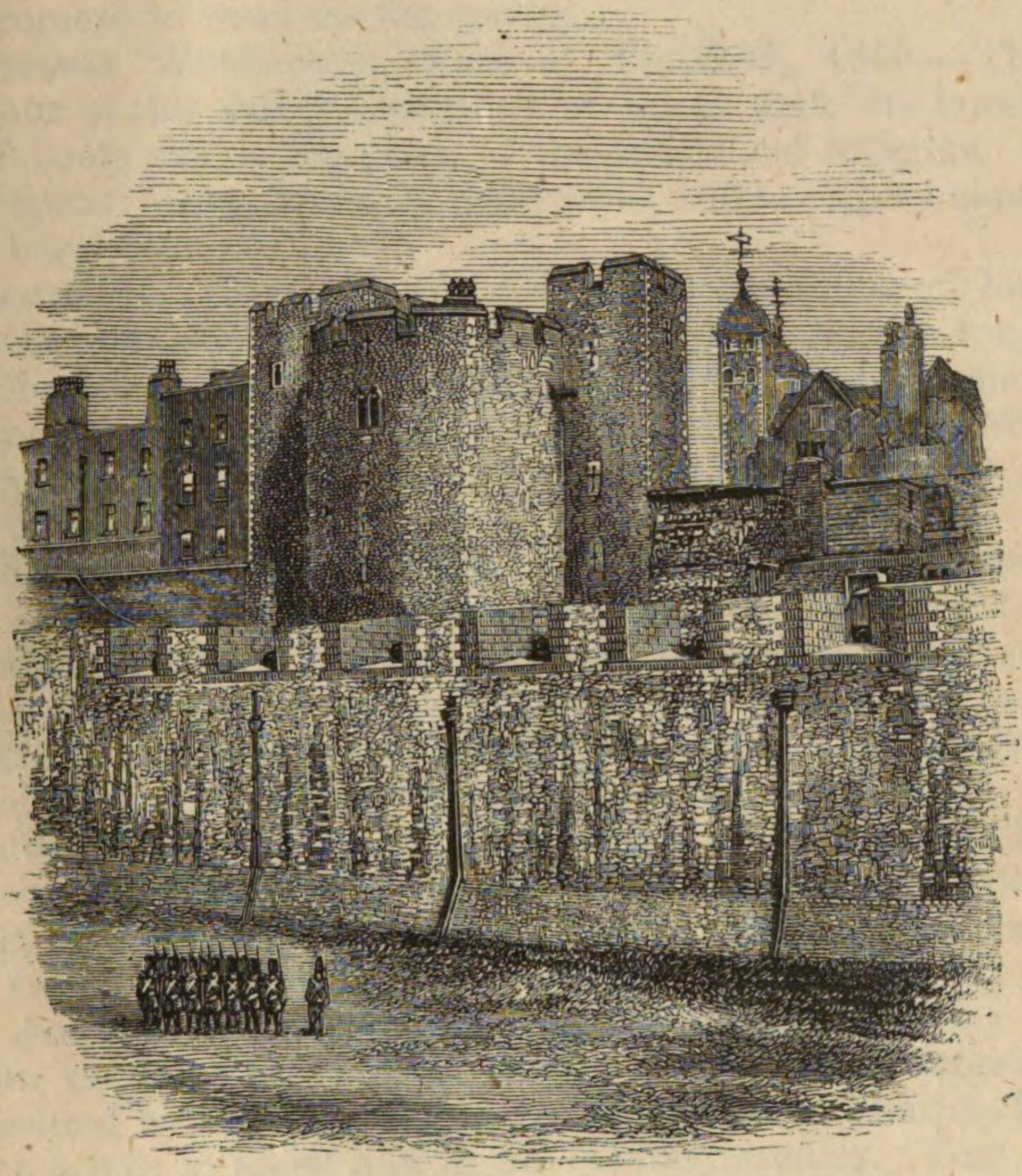
On pedestals under the wall, are figures of a knight of the time of Elizabeth; and a cavalier (a term imported from Spain), of the time of Charles I., in russet armour studded with brass.

Henry, Prince of Wales, 1612, the son of James I. This rich suit of engraved and gilt armour was made for this prince; it is adorned with representations of sieges and battles. In the right hand is a rapier.

Between this last horse and the next are the figures on



ST. THOMAS'S TOWER.



THE BEAUCHAMP TOWER.

foot of Prince Charles, afterwards King Charles I., and his page. The armour of the prince was made for him, and is richly chased and gilt. The page bears the chanfron of a war-horse.

GEORGE VILLIERS, Duke of Buckingham, 1618—Reign of James I., a full suit of plate. In his hand he holds a wheel-lock petronel, and in the right the "spanner" or instrument to wind up the spring.

THOMAS WENTWORTH, Earl of Strafford, 1640.—The armour in this suit is continued no lower than the knees. Buff boots supply the place of the jambs and sollerets.

GEORGE MONK, Duke of Albemarle, 1660.—The helmet is a burgonet.

JAMES II., 1685.—In his own armour. Suits of half armour were adopted in Charles I.'s reign. In the reign of Charles II., only the helmet and cuirass were retained. In the reign of William III., 1688, defensive armour was altogether abandoned, and the old suits were returned to the Tower.

The only figures remaining to be noticed under the wall are a suit of bright armour studded with brass, and a pikeman of 1635. A variety of arms and pieces of armour adorn the wall between the recess and the *eastern vestibule*, which contains, besides a trophy of arms and armour, some curious Chinese military dresses, taken with a number of weapons in the capture of Chusan. The dresses were presented to the collection by J. Gillman, Esq., of Tower Street. Some Chinese arms will be seen up stairs. Leaving the vestibule, the Military Trophy at the east end of the horse armoury will arrest attention.

On the floor beneath the trophy are ten small cannon, presented by the brass founders of London to Charles II. when a boy, to assist him in his military studies. One of these has sustained considerable damage from the fire of 1841.

In the north-east angle, by the stairs, is a group of highly ornamented spears.

Visitors will next be conducted to a room recently added to that called Queen Elizabeth's Armoury. On the stairs will be seen two figures on pedestals, in demi-suits of bright armour, various arms, and part of the keel of "the Royal George," sunk by an accident while at anchor at Spithead, August, 1782. This memorial and a 24-pounder brass gun, which is outside the Horse Armoury at the

western end, were recovered by means of the ingenious diving apparatus first used by Mr. George Anthony Deane.

On entering this apartment, it will be observed that three arches, supported by pillars, divide it into two compartments; the inner or western one is almost exclusively devoted to Oriental arms and armour. The principal object of attraction in the eastern compartment is the military trophy which faces the visitor at the north end of the apartment. This trophy consists of cannon captured at Waterloo, 1815; two kettle drums taken at Blenheim, 1704; and a collection of spears and other arms, comprising one specimen, ancient or modern, of every description of warlike weapons now in the Tower. A similar trophy was destroyed by the great fire, 1841. The present contains the same cannon and drums which were recovered from the ruins of the fire.

1. On turning towards the *south*, the visitor will see, upon brackets, over the staircase, the effigy of a knight, 1520, and of a cavalier, 1621, a group of ancient spears in the centre, and four pilasters formed by spears, eighteen feet long, used by pikemen, 1604 (time of James the First). Right and left are trophies of Scotch targets and broad swords.

2. On the east side of the Room—a group of tilting lances for practice.

3. On a pedestal, a knight of the time of Henry VII. in fluted armour.

4. A group of spears of the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries.

5. In a glass case, the sword and sash of the late Field Marshal His Royal Highness the Duke of York.

6. Model of a wrought iron gun, one fourth the size of the original, now at Edinburgh, but formerly deposited in the Tower, called Mons Meg.

7. On a pedestal, effigy of a knight in a suit of German black armour, of the time of Henry VIII., 1509-46.

8. In a small glass case, in front of the iron gun, Mons Meg, the Cloak upon which General Wolfe was laid when mortally wounded, 12th September, 1759, and upon which he died. Deposited in the Tower by command of King William IV.

9. In the centre of the Room is a beautifully ornamented gun of bronze, captured in the "Sensible" French

frigate, by the "Sea Horse," Captain Foot, 1798. The barrel is covered with figures in alto-relievo of exquisite workmanship.

10. Also, near the stairs, two small brass guns (one much damaged by the fire of 1841), presented by the Earl of Leicester to the young Duke of Gloucester, son of the princess (afterwards Queen Anne.)

11. Two larger brass guns, taken at Quebec by General Wolfe, 1759.

12. In front of the arches; a stand of cross bows. The stirrup, the latch, and the prodd. The cross-bow was used in the chase in the reign of William the Conqueror, but not in warfare until Richard I.'s reign, 1189. The missiles of the cross-bow were quarrels, arrows, and bullets.

13. On pedestals against the pillars, four figures in armour, viz.:

14. A. (Southward). A demi-suit of armour of the time of Queen Elizabeth, 1558—1603.

15. B. A suit of armour of the time of Henry VIII. It is fluted and engraved; the skirts are formed of splints.

16. C. A man-at-arms, time of Henry VIII. This armour is said to have been made for a man 7 feet in height. The figure is armed with a two-handed mace.

17. D. A complete suit of the early part of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

18. Above the arches is a row of targets of the time of Henry VIII., each having a small gun attached to the centre, to be loaded at the breach.

Passing through the arches, the visitor will find himself in the compartment appropriated to ARMS AND ARMOUR, chiefly ORIENTAL.

Under the arches and around the room are arranged seven horizontal glass cases on legs (formed with arms), containing a collection of valuable specimens of Indian and other arms.

NORTH SIDE of the Oriental compartment, commencing at the eastern corner—

19. Upright glass-case, containing a suit of chain mail, said to have belonged to Bajazet, 1401. Also, a curious iron boot, Asiatic.

20. Group of Saracenic armour, over which is a collection of arms from Kaffre-land, Africa.

21. Upright glass-case, containing a Mameluke saddle,

swords, and other memorials, from the armoury of the celebrated Tippoo Saib, captured at Seringapatam; also, two ornamented Malay spears.

22. West Side.—Upright glass case, containing a suit of Indian armour.

23. Collection of Chinese armour; amongst them, a combined sword and pistol, found in China, but of Indian manufacture, presented by Sir Thomas Hastings. Sword and scabbard, with other weapons, from Singhoo, Upper Assam, India. Burmese sword, and sword used by the infantry of Morocco.

24. Group of Indian spears and guns.

25. Upright glass case, containing the effigy of Maha Bundoola, a Burmese chief.

26. South Side.—Upright glass case, containing three varieties of Saracenic, and three varieties of Indian armour. Also, five highly ornamented Eastern spears, composed entirely of metal.

27. Upright glass-case, containing a variety of Indian guns; two fine shields; a sacrificial axe; and arms used by the Mahratta cavalry.

28. Over this case, hempen armour from the South Seas, of extraordinary strength and thickness.

29. Above, group of clubs, war spears, fishing spears, and a chief's robe, from New Zealand.

30. Upright glass case, containing varieties of Turkish or Saracenic, and Indian armour; also, four Indian shields, one of which is evidently of modern manufacture, having four small percussion pistols attached to it.

31. Upon pedestals, against the pillars, are two suits of Japanese armour, one of these was presented to King Charles II.

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S ARMOURY.

The visitor is now about to enter the White Tower. The space occupied by the stairs shows the thickness of the wall. A farther notice of this very interesting apartment will be found in the description of the White Tower. It will suffice to remark now, that this room occupies the south-east angle of the first story of that edifice—that it was formerly used as a prison-lodging—and that it is immediately under St. John's Chapel. At the further end

of the apartment is a figure representing Queen Elizabeth mounted on a carved horse. Her dress is imitated from an old painting. She is attended by her page.

On entering the room, groups of spears will be observed on each side of the doorway. Here are arranged, in chronological order, all the weapons of this kind which were in use before the introduction of fire-arms.

1. One of the most ancient of these is the *glaive.* It was derived from the Celtic custom of placing a sword with a hollow handle at the end of a pole. It takes its name from the Welsh *Gleddyv.*

2. The *Guisarme* was known in the 12th century; but it was used in Henry VIII.'s time, at Flodden Field.

3. The bill, and the English black bill, are very ancient arms, and were those principally used by the infantry before the introduction of the pike.

4. The "morning star," and the "holy water sprinkle." A ball of wood armed with spikes of iron, and fixed at the end of a long pole. It was in use from the time of the Conquest to that of Henry VIII.

5. Another variety of this has a ball with iron spikes and chain. Weapons similar to these are found amongst the ancient arms of Japan. We, no doubt, derived them from the east.

6. The pole axe—the battle axe adapted to the infantry by being fixed at the end of a long pole.

7. The catch-pole—a contrivance, by means of an iron fork with springs, to pull a man from his horse by his head.

8. The military flail.

9. The military fork, for cutting the horse's bridle. This last weapon was used in the fifteenth and sixteenth century.

10. The pike, which is merely the lance of the cavalry adapted to the infantry, was introduced into France in the reign of Louis XI. From the time of Henry VIII., 1509, to that of William III., 1688, pikemen composed the principal part of the English army.

11. The halberd, first mentioned under Edward IV., 1461, was common in the reigns of Henry VII. and VIII. The forms of its head are to be met with in an immense variety; some of beautiful design, and much ornamented. The halberd was discontinued by our troops half a century ago. It is still to be seen as an official weapon in our courts of justice. The etymology is said to be derived

from the German—"Hallebard, hache des gardes du palais; formé de *halle*, vestibule due palais, et *bard* hache."

18. The partisan—came into use in Henry VIII.'s time. This arm is pointed and sharp at both ends—etymology, from *pertundere*.

19. The spear lin-stock.—The lin-stock was the instrument used by the cannonier to carry his match. The spear was added, to enable the man to defend himself after he had fired without delaying to resume his halberd. The visitor will observe that a variety of specimens of all these spears are to be found in different parts of the armouries. The more ancient, especially, will be found against the south wall of this room.

On the North Wall are a number of bucklers.—1. A gauntlet buckler of steel—the concentric hoops in front are for the purpose of entangling and breaking a sword or lance.—2. Iron bucklers of the time of Elizabeth.—3. Spanish buckler with sword breaker.—4. A shield of brass, embossed with the Labours of Hercules.—5. Shield of the 16th century, richly embossed and damasquined: the subject of the centre compartment, Death of Charles the Bold, of Burgundy.

Above these shields are several ancient pavoises and shields. The pavoise is a large kind of shield, which used to be carried by the serf in front of his master, who shot over his shoulder. The pavoise shielded both.

1.—In the Centre of the Room, near the door: a target restored, similar to those over the arches in the adjoining room. A nearer view can now be obtained of the curious gun in the centre, and of the grated aperture for taking aim, date 1509-46.

2. Heading block, used at the decapitation of Lords Balmerino, Kilmarnock, and Lovat, on Tower-hill, 1746.

3. Heading axe.

4. Iron military chest captured at the Havannah.

5. "Holy water sprinkle" combined with three guns; a pole-axe and gun; a two-handed battle-axe and gun. There was much predilection with our forefathers for these combined weapons. When fire-arms were discovered there was still an unwillingness to part with the old friend, thus the two were united.

6. Specimens of ancient shot—chain, bar, link, star, and saw shot.

7. Various ancient instruments of punishment.

Queen Elizabeth having been duly visited, the warder will conduct the visitors down the

SOUTH SIDE OF THE ROOM.—West window. In the deep embrasure of this window will be seen a glass case, containing two bows of yew, recovered in 1841 from the wreck of the ship "Mary Rose," sunk off Spithead, in the year 1545, in the reign of Henry VIII. Though they have lain nearly three hundred years at the bottom of the sea, they look fresh and new.

In the same case is an ancient English arrow head found at Norham Castle, Northumberland. In this part of the room the visitor will find several of the ancient spears referred to in the list—in this window, spear linstocks.

BETWEEN THE WEST AND CENTRE WINDOW.—*Gisarmes, glaives, bills, long partizans, spetums, morning stars, and cresset,* which was the lamp carried at the end of a pole by the watch of the city or camp; sometimes, as here, combined with a spear. A rope covered with pitch was wreathed round a spike of iron fixed in the centre of the bowl.

CENTRE WINDOW.—Some rare specimens of early gunnery. Hand fire-arms were invented by the Italians in the reign of our Henry VI., 1422-61. 1°. The first form of hand fire-arms was the *hand gun.* It was fired by simply holding a match to the touch-hole. The-cross bow suggested the idea of an instrument to hold the match, which might be brought down upon the priming by pulling a trigger. The stock or handle also was suggested by the cross-bow. Thus we

2°. Have the *match lock.* (This new weapon was called an arquebus).

3°. The *wheel lock* was a contrivance for eliciting sparks by the friction of a notched wheel against a piece of pyrites (sulphuret of iron). The wheel was wound up by a "spanner" put on the axle of the wheel. This invention was introduced from Italy about Henry VIII.'s time. (A spanner and wheel lock are in the hands of the equestrian figure of the Duke of Buckingham, in the horse armoury.)

4. In the reign of Charles I., 1625-49, a new method of discharging the piece was introduced—the invention of the Spaniards. The cock, armed with a flint, was struck against an upright moveable piece of steel which stood over the pan. The hammer was not at first attached to the pan. That improvement soon followed. This was the *firelock.*

5. The *Percussion lock* of the present day completes the list.

IN THIS CENTRE WINDOW there is a mace cannon; it was carried at the saddle-bow; and after the four barrels had been exploded (by the hand with a match), it was used as a mace; the date is the 15th century.

Hand cannon with tuck, or long narrow thrusting sword.

Curious matchlock, wall piece, time of James I. (The shield in a glass case is merely a cast of an original at Woolwich, of the time of Francis I., king of France).

BETWEEN THE CENTRE WINDOW AND THE EAST WINDOW are pikes, boar-spears, lances, partisans.

IN THE EAST WINDOW.—A halberd of the guard of Louis XIV., and several other halberds and partisans; some pikes and military forks. Over the door are arranged Scotch pistols in the form of an arch.

Quitting the Queen Elizabeth Armoury, the warder will now re-conduct the visitors into the Horse Armoury, the north side of which remains to be reviewed.

1. A lofty glass case, containing a variety of pieces of armour, among which is the breast-plate, back-plate, and helmet, finely engraved, once belonging to King Henry IV. of France; and a silvered suit, made for King Charles I. when a boy. Also several pieces of Venetian armour. It is russet, chased, and picked out with gold and silver, 16th century. Also some pieces of the puffed armour which came into vogue in Henry VIII.'s time, in imitation of the slashed dresses of the day. Some fine helmets.

2. A suit of magnificent Italian armour upon an effigy. It was purchased by Messrs. Pratt of the Count Oddi of Padua, by whose ancestor, Count Hector Oddi, it was worn about 1620. The ground is of russet, ornamented over its entire surface with the imperial eagle (the badge of the house) engraved, and gilt.

3. In a recess, an effigy of King Charles I., 1627, in a complete suit of gilt armour, presented to him by the city of London. He is mounted on a dun horse.

4. A suit of richly-chased armour—a knight of the time of Queen Elizabeth.

5. On the platform, suits of plate armour of every date, from its first general adoption in the reign of Henry VI., 1422, until its discontinuance in the reign of James II., 1688, are exhibited at one view. The arrangement is not yet finished. At the western end of the platform, some

pieces of chain mail are added, and an equestrian figure in chain mail mounted on a barbed horse. The armour of this "Crusader" is evidently very old. "The man's armour is from the Mogul country," says Dr. Meyrick, "the armour on the horse is Persian." The suit is of mixed chain and plate. The breast, back, and crown of the head are protected by small plates of steel, the hood falls over the shoulders, after the manner of Asiatic armour of modern times.

6. Beneath the platform are several low glass cases, containing a valuable series of helmets from the time of Edward II., 1320, to James II., 1685. Also some fine breast plates. The most ancient helmets in the last case in the series are objects of deep antiquarian interest.

7. Opposite the platform is a model representing the encounter of the Duke of Clarence, brother to Henry V., and Gavin de Fontaine, a French knight, in which the duke was slain.

8. East of the platform is a knight of the time of Henry III., in a suit of chain armour, covered with the surcoat. In the right hand a two-edged sword, and a heater shield in the left.

9. Brigandine jackets on the wall, formed of flat pieces of steel, quilted between two pieces of canvass, introduced in Edward IV.'s reign, 1460.

10. A very curious suit of mixed chain and plate armour, about the time of Edward II., 1307.

11. A lofty glass case, containing a fine collection of match-lock, wheel-lock, and other muskets and swords, some of which are very highly ornamented. In passing, visitors will have observed that the range of pillars behind the horses are furnished with a series of fire-arms, specimens of those in use from the time of James II. to the present reign, with numerous projects and inventions; also specimens of the arms now in use in various armies on the continent.

12. At the west end of the north wall there are some curious pieces of horse armour, among which is a specimen of the kind called "penny plate." This brings the visitor again to the equestrian figure of Edward I., completing the circuit of the armouries.

In passing out through the western vestibule, in the cabinet on the right hand, will be observed an ancient

German saddle, 1450, inlaid with ivory—a variety of spurs, stirrups, and bridle-bits; the grotesque burgonet of Henry VIII.'s jester. The cabinet on the left hand contains a variety of pieces of body armour; also various battle axes, &c.

CHAPTER III.

The Tower as a Prison.

THE annals of the Tower as a state prison are replete with gloomy and fearful events. A detailed account of these would fill volumes; a list even of the renowned and the notorious, who, during the past eight centuries have pined within these walls in captivity, would far exceed the limits of this sketch. All that can be attempted is to recall to the recollection facts known to every one, but which memory often refuses to furnish at the needed moment, and to point out the localities connected with these facts by history or tradition.

Rumours reach us of secret passages, of torture-rooms, and of dungeons, abounding within and beneath the fortress; and the assertion comports with the dark age in which it was built, and with the dread scenes it has witnessed. But history here, unaided by tradition, is sad enough. Let us pause before that gloomy archway, the Traitor's Gate. How often have grandeur, and even royalty, passed beneath its ominous portals, to exchange the dreams of honor and of glory, and the festive brilliancy of courts, for the realities of the prison-lodging, the torture-room, and the fatal block and axe! The frowning gateway of the Bloody Tower admits us to the Inner Ward. We glance around at the towers, those chill and lone lodgings where illustrious captives have sighed out a lifetime! The eye at last rests on the simple Chapel, within which the bodies of these prisoners moulder in the dust; and in front of which is the spot which marks with so indelible a stain the Tudor race—the spot where was erected the scaffold, which taught Englishmen to look upon woman's life blood, held sacred in the most ruthless Norman age, ebbing beneath the headsman's stroke!

It will aid the memory, to consider the prisoners who have been immured within the fortress under five periods.

1. THE NORMAN AND EARLY PLANTAGENET AGE.

During this period, history has recorded the names of few captives of note. One of the most remarkable was, the first state prisoner known to have been incarcerated in the Tower of London, Flambard, Bishop of Durham. His origin was humble, but his talents made him so useful to William Rufus in carrying out his oppressive system of taxation, that he raised him to the highest offices in the state. Henry I. imprisoned him on his accession, 1100, to please the people; but the wily Flambard contrived to escape, and fled to Normandy. Hugh de Burgh was another captive statesman of this period, but of far different order. This great man and faithful minister was guardian of the kingdom during Henry III.'s minority. Those who envied his greatness prejudiced his sovereign against him, and he was cruelly imprisoned within the Tower dungeons for some time, about 1240. He was subsequently released.

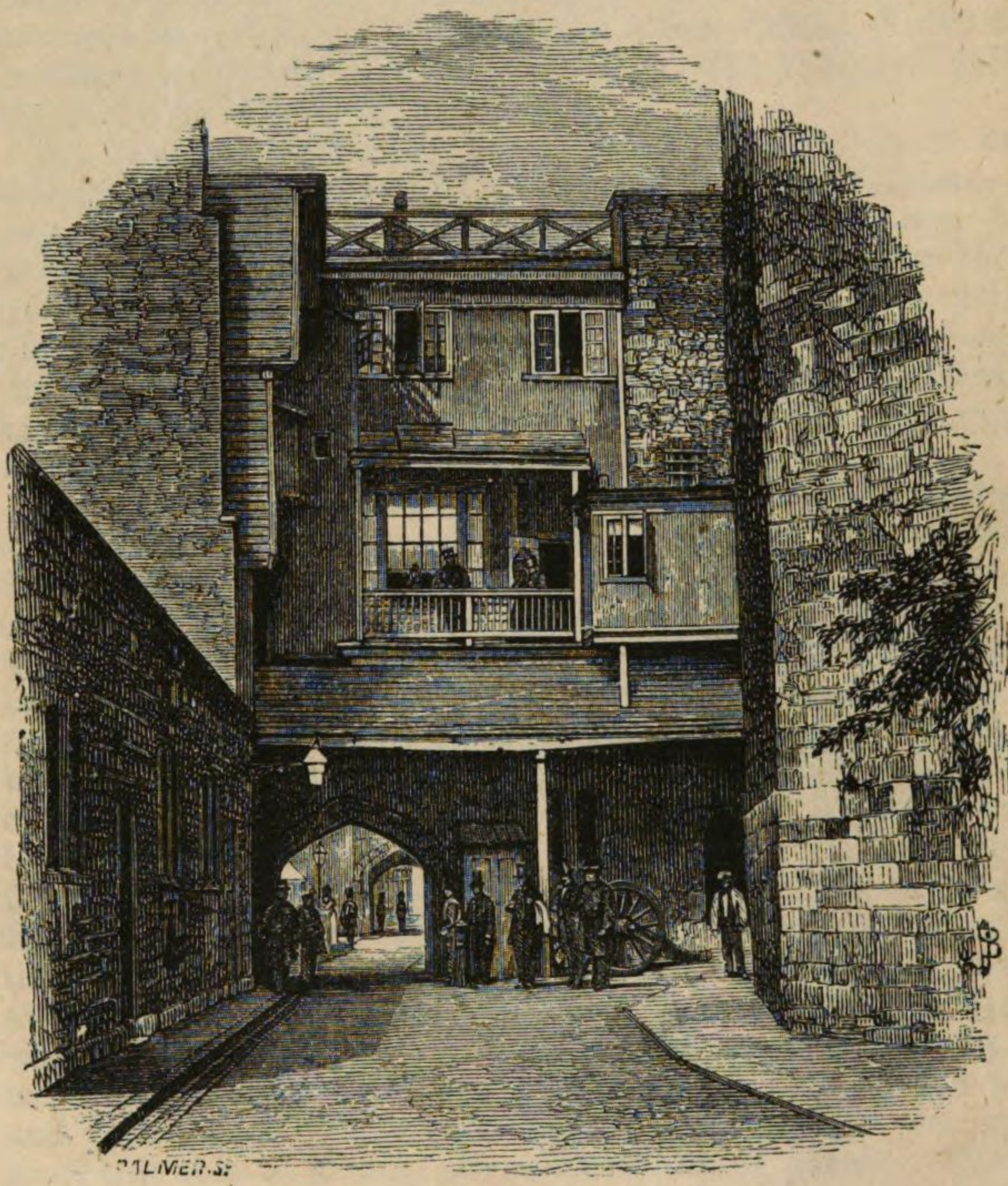
2ND PERIOD, THE 14TH CENTURY.—At this time the Tower appears in the lustre of that martial glory which was shed upon our country by the royal warriors, Edward I., Edward III., and Edward the Black Prince. The national banners which floated over the Tower were "fann'd by conquest's crimson wing, and the fortress was filled with captive kings and heroes—trophies of England's valor." We especially connect the crested pride of the first Edward with the conquest of Wales, that interesting country upon which we look with a feeling akin to reverence, as the retreat of the early possessors of our beautiful England; the country whose mountains were once "vocal with high born Hoel's harp and soft Llewellyn's lay." A tragical instance of the irksomeness of captivity to Cambria's mountain chiefs, was given in the attempt made by Griffin, the son of the Prince of North Wales, to escape from the Tower. The treacherous rope by which he lowered himself from his turret, broke! and the unhappy prince was found next morning a mangled corpse beneath. His son, undaunted, soon after did escape, and succeeded to the principality; but only to fall in battle before the victorious Edward, who sent his ivy-crowned head to be fixed over the turret which had proved so fatal to his father. The names of many Welsh chiefs are chronicled as having been captives in the Tower during this period. Morgan David, Llewellyn Bren, Madoc Vaghan, and others, some of whom died in captivity. Owen Glendower, proved in the reign of Henry IV., 1399, how mighty a spirit still lingered amidst the mountains of Wales. The expiring effort for independence seems to have been made by Owen's son, and several chiefs, who were led captive to the Tower by Henry V., then Prince of Wales, after the battle of Usk, 1410.

Many a mighty spirit from Scotland, too, chafed within the dismal dungeons of the royal fortress during the 14th century, and just previous to its commencement. We must only notice the names of King Baliol, 1297—of the noble Wallace, who suffered a cruel imprisonment and terrible death, 1305—of the Earls of Ross, of Athol, and of Monteith—of King David Bruce, 1346.

The imprisonment of John, King of France, of his son, and of many French nobles; and the generous treatment which they received from the noble Edward, the Black Prince, is alluded to in Chapter IV. (*the Tower as a Palace*). The treaty of Brètigny restored John to his throne in 1360.

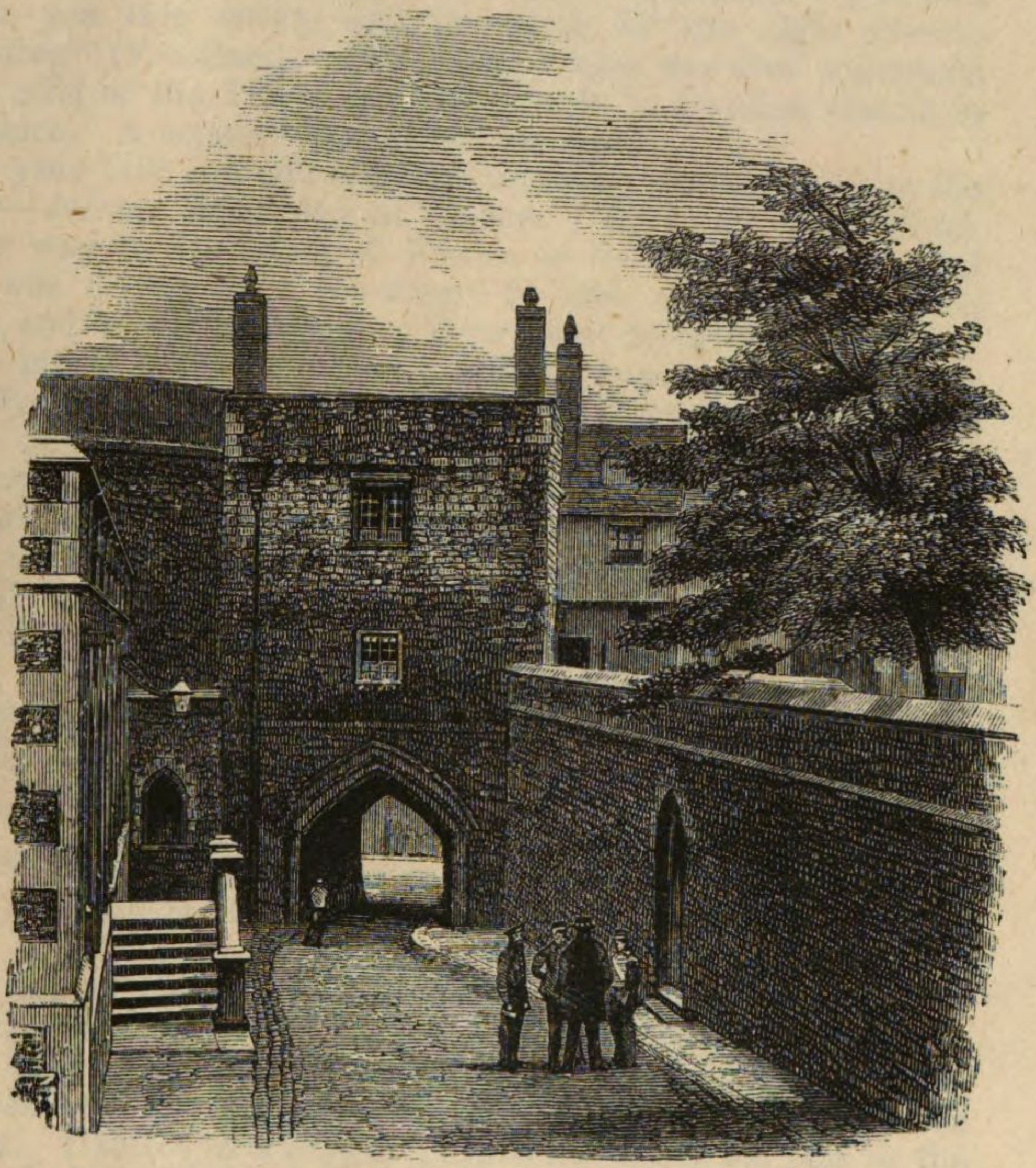
Six hundred Jews were incarcerated in these dungeons during Edward III.'s reign for adulterating the coin of the realm. The monarch, whose prejudice against them was strong, finally banished all of that nation from England, compelling them to leave behind them their immense wealth, and their libraries, so rich in the treasures of science, which were taken possession of by the monasteries. Roger Bacon owed much of his extraordinary knowledge to the Jews' libraries, especially to the gigantic volumes of the Babylonish Talmud.

3RD PERIOD.—The splendour of the 14th century passed away, and during the 15th a gloomy shroud of darkest deeds enveloped the Tower of London. Edward the Black Prince, the pride and the delight of the nation, was arrested by the hand of death in the glory of his manhood. He left his mourning country fatherless, as sheep without a shepherd: it became the prey of the wolf-like passions of rival factions. When the prince's son, the year after his father's death, succeeded to the crown, he was but a child in age; and, as if the moral energy of the stock had been exhausted in his high-souled father and his brave grandfather, Richard the Second remained always a child in character. His imbecility allowed lawless ambition to rage unchecked; and the Tower chronicles record how dismally it wrought in the sons and son's sons of Edward III. They show us the royal cousins wresting the crown from each other, and dooming one the other to dungeons and to assassination; and even causing the valleys and plains of England to flow with the blood of her bravest sons, and this to gratify the terrible lust of power. This dark period was appropriately commenced with the erection on Tower Hill of the fatal scaffold. The first victim whose blood was shed on that spot was Sir Simon Burley. "A noble knight I found him," writes Froissart, "sage and wise." One of the most accomplished men of his age, he had been selected by the Black Prince as the companion of his son (Richard II.), and his only crime was faithfulness to his young sovereign—an unpardonable one in the judgment of the king's uncles, the Dukes of York and Gloucester, who, having wrested the power from their royal nephew's hands, wreaked vengeance on all who favored him. Richard's good queen, Anne, pleaded for Sir Simon on her knees with tears, but in vain—he was beheaded in 1388.

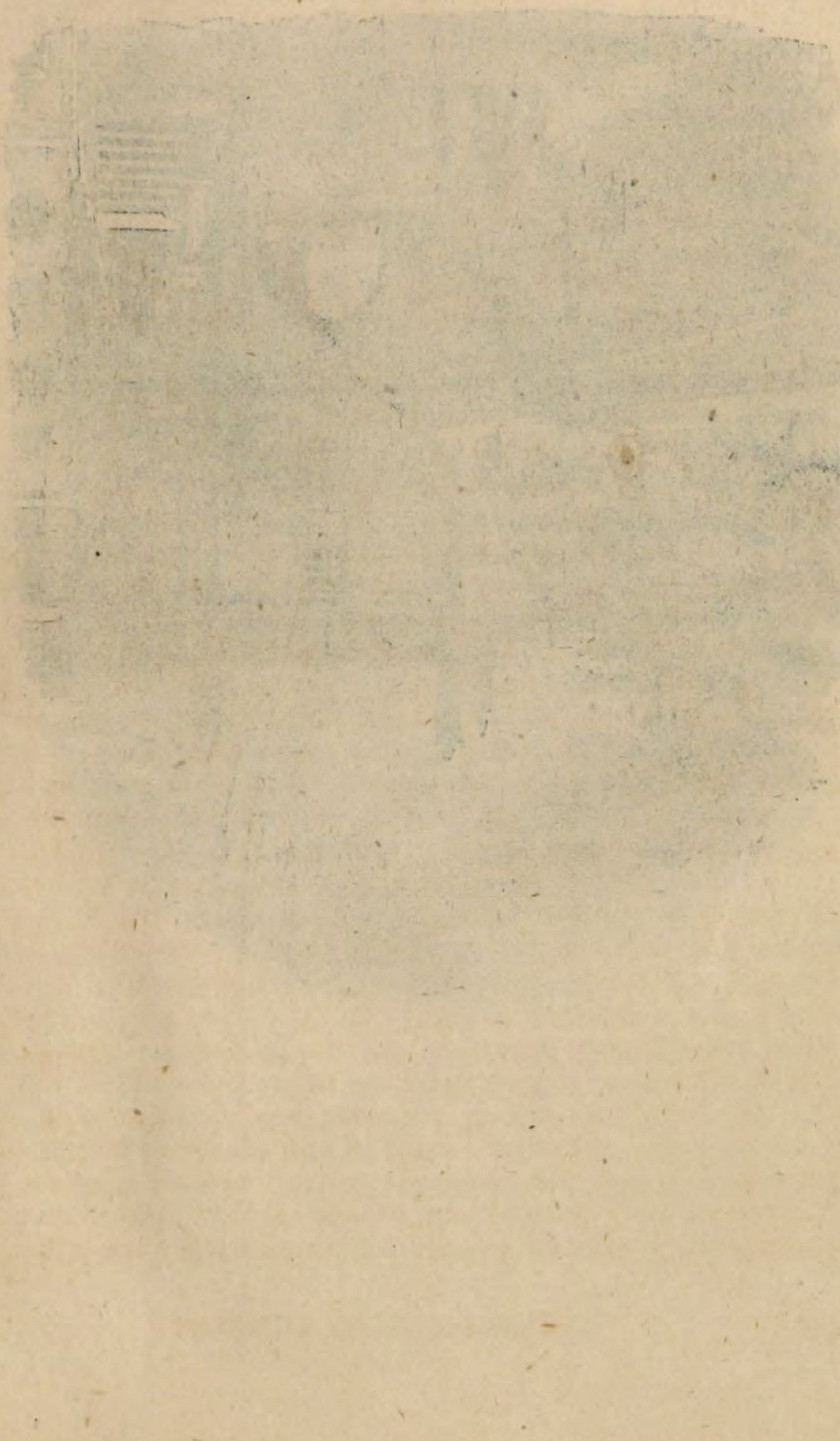


THE BYWARD TOWER.

(From the East.)



THE BLOODY TOWER.



The king's weak government produced a general discontent, of which Henry Bolingbroke, son of the famous John of Gaunt, availed himself to win golden opinions, and easily prevailed upon the nation to accept him as their sovereign. The deserted Richard soon after, in the presence of the chief men of the realm, who were assembled in the great hall of the palace in the Tower, formally delivered up the crown to Bolingbroke with those words, "Fair cousin Henry, Duke of Lancaster, I give and deliver you this crown, and therewith all the right thereto depending" (Froissart). The unhappy king was then conducted to the cells of the Tower, and afterwards to Pomfret Castle in Yorkshire. A mystery hangs over his death.

The year 1406 brought a most interesting young captive to the Tower—James, eldest son of Robert III., King of Scotland. On his way to the court of France to be educated, the royal child was driven by a sea-storm to take refuge on English shores, and he was detained by Henry, and doomed to a captivity which lasted eighteen years. Henry, however, gave him a princely education in his prison-lodging in the Tower. His genius was brilliant—his thirst for knowledge intense; and when at length he was restored to his country and his crown, he was distinguished for consummate wisdom and virtue.

The next royal prisoner in the fortress was our own amiable and saintly though weak monarch, Henry VI.

The House of Lancaster did not wear their usurped crown in peace. The House of York asserted their more just claims; and the meek monarch would perhaps gladly have yielded to their prior right.

"Gives not the hawthorn bush a sweeter shade
To shepherds, looking on their silly sheep,
Than doth a rich embroider'd canopy
To kings, that fear their subjects' treachery?"

III. PART HENRY VI., ACT II., SC. V.

But not so Henry's warlike queen, Margaret of Anjou. In 1461, Henry was defeated by the Yorkists, and immured in the Tower dungeons. The victory of Margaret at Wakefield, 1470, again seated Henry on the throne and filled the Tower with his enemies. Habited in a robe of purple, his nobles led him to the cathedral of St. Paul in triumph; but he only regained his regal splendours to be shorn of them again in the ensuing year. Edward IV. finally defeated the House of Lancaster at Barnet and Tewkesbury, 1471. Henry was sent back to his prison, and was not long after found dead. His queen pined in a miserable captivity for three years afterwards; she was then released from the Tower. Henry VI.'s son was killed at Tewkesbury by the brothers of Edward IV., the Dukes of Clarence and Gloucester. Clarence himself was the next victim. Having roused his brother, Edward IV.'s jealousy, he was imprisoned in the Bowyer Tower—and murdered—tradition says, drowned in malmsey wine. In 1483, the gay Edward sickened and died.

His youthful sons were committed to the care of their uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. The royal children were sent to the Tower, and disappeared. Tradition says that they were murdered by Richard's order in the Bloody Tower, and buried at the foot of the N.E. staircase in the White Tower. An impenetrable mystery veils their fate.

Lord Hastings, who opposed the evil course of Richard's murderous ambition, was doomed by him to instant death, on pretence of his approval of Jane Shore's practice of magical arts to Richard's injury. The wicked sentence was executed in front of St. Peter's Chapel. The unhappy Jane herself was immured in the Tower dungeons, and was only released to die after years of suffering in extreme poverty. The battle of Bosworth field at length, in 1485, terminated Richard's dark career, and placed his rival, Henry, Earl of Richmond, on the throne. Amidst all this darkness we discern glimmerings of a new dawn: in the previous century the pure fountains of life and truth had been unsealed through the instrumentality of Wyckliffe. Truth ever shines as a light, and some were attracted by its loveliness; but many, alas! found darkness more congenial, and used their every energy to preserve it. Thus, in the year 1401, a law was passed empowering the Bishops to imprison any one suspected of *heresy*. From that time the cells of the Tower were constantly tenanted by those to whom truth was dearer than this world's liberty and life; and often were its dismal recesses the scenes of their terrible tortures. Sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham, a man no less renowned for his virtues than for his valor, had the honor of being the first person of rank in this country who suffered in this most noble of causes. Henry V. himself had an interview with him in the hope of prevailing upon him to retract his opinions; but, finding even royal rhetoric fail, Henry left him to his clergy, who, after imprisoning him in the Tower, sent him to the stake. He was burnt at St. Giles' in the Fields, 1417.

4TH PERIOD, THE TUDOR RACE.—The hero of Agincourt, Henry V., left by his early death a young widow, Katherine, daughter of Charles the Simple, King of France. She afterwards married a Welsh gentleman, Owen Tudor. Henry, Earl of Richmond, was the grandson of this pair; hence his claim to be the representative of the House of Lancaster, a claim which the nation's hatred of Richard III. made them the more ready to own. His marriage to the fair Elizabeth of York, Edward IV.'s daughter, thus uniting the rival roses, completed the general satisfaction. A short calm ensued, but it was only a gathering of strength for a mighty conflict of a new order that was about to commence. A struggle between light and darkness, in which the confusion was so chaos-like, that for a while it was often difficult to separate the two—to distinguish error from truth.

In Henry VII.'s reign the last male of the Plantagenets was a

captive in the Tower. The young Earl of Warwick was the son of that Duke of Clarence who died in the Bowyer Tower. A victim to Henry's jealousy of the Plantagenets, after spending his life in prison, he was beheaded on Tower Hill, charged with attempting to escape from the fortress with "Perkin Warbeck," the name given to a young man who had presented himself before the nation a few years after Henry's accession. He bore a striking resemblance to Edward IV. Highly accomplished, and of princely bearing, he announced himself to be Richard, Duke of York, the younger of the royal princes supposed to have been murdered by Richard III. His claims were favored by the Kings of Scotland and France. Henry committed him to the Tower, and caused him to be hung at Tyburn. His whole history is enveloped in mystery. Henry VIII.'s reign may be divided into three periods—The 1st includes the twenty years of his union with Katherine of Arragon, and the ascendency over him of the Romish party. Rome was then at the zenith of its persecuting spirit. Cardinal Wolsey and Sir Thomas More, who both drank into this deeply, influenced Henry; and the cells of the Tower were filled with those convicted of *heresy*—the epithet which it is so easy for error to apply to truth. 2. Henry's passion for Anne Boleyn changed the current of royal opinions, and we see the monarch espousing the cause of the Reformation during the ten succeeding years of Thomas Cromwell's power. The Tower dungeons were again filled; but principally with those who withstood Henry's claim to be head of the church. The most illustrious of these was the gifted, the excellent, the beloved, and brilliant Sir Thomas More, Lord Chancellor—and the venerable Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, whose imprisonment at the advanced age of eighty seems to have been very rigorous. He wrote to the secretary, Lord Cromwell—"I have neither shirt nor sute to wear but that bee ragged and rent so shamefully; my dyett also, God knoweth, how slender it is at meny tymes." The tragical fate of Queen Anne Boleyn will be found at page 42. She died 1536.

3. The Romish party regained an influence over Henry's mind when the capricious monarch withdrew his favor from Cromwell. The Lady Katherine Howard, a niece of the powerful Duke of Norfolk, had inspired the monarch with an extreme passion. This unfortunate young lady was brought up by her grandmother, the old Duchess of Norfolk. A young and lovely creature, left in the princely old mansion without companions suited to her exalted rank, Katherine was ruined in early youth by association with the unworthy dependents of the family. When afterwards introduced at court, Henry was fascinated by her maidenly and winning manners. Her portrait by Holbein at Windsor represents her as a fair girl with ruby lips and bright blue eyes. Marillac, the French ambassador, writing to the King of France, describes her as "a young lady of moderate beauty, but of most sweet and sprightly manners." He mentions

Henry's devotion to her. She wore round her arms the motto—"No other will but his." But no sooner was the unhappy Katherine exalted to be Queen, than the accomplishers of her former ruin seemed to hover around her like evil spirits. The opposite faction caught rumours of the sad truth of the errors of her childhood (for she was but fourteen when Derham boasted that she was his wife). Many terrible accusations were made against Katherine since she had been Queen. She was arraigned for high treason, and brought to the scaffold in 1542. She died, aged 20, acknowledging her early error, but maintaining, till death, her innocence of the other charges. The only proofs offered of her guilt seem to be the confessions of those under the influence of torture on the rack.

Two years before the gifted Cromwell had perished on Tower Hill. His father was a blacksmith. Spurning this humble employment, he travelled to Rome; became Cardinal Wolsey's steward, then his secretary, and a member of parliament. Introduced to Henry, whose discernment made him appreciate his exalted talents, he was speedily raised to the highest offices in the kingdom. He was a zealous friend of the Reformation. Caprice, and the rising influence of an opposing party, made Cromwell's fall more rapid than his rise. He was seized in the council chamber of Westminster on some frivolous charge of treason, committed to the Tower, and beheaded on Tower Hill in the summer of 1540.

After his death no one remained who had power to stem the torrent of persecution of the Reformers as Cromwell ever did. The Tower dungeons were, during the remainder of Henry's reign, filled with learned divines holding reforming views. In 1546, Anne Askew, a lady of cultivated mind and good family, was tortured in the Tower and burnt at Smithfield, for having denied, in conversation, the doctrine of transubstantiation. The last of Henry's victims who can be noticed is Margaret, the Countess of Salisbury, the sister of the Earl of Warwick, and daughter of Edward IV.'s brother, the murdered Clarence. This now venerable lady was the mother of Cardinal Pole. Her crime seems to have been her royal blood. When brought to the scaffold on the green before the chapel, she refused to lay her head on the block. "So do traitors use to do, and I am no traitor." A terrible scene ensued, which ended by the headsman dragging the Countess by her grey hair to the block. So perished the last of the Plantagenets of whole blood!

The reign of Edward VI. witnessed the death on the scaffold of two of the young king's maternal uncles, Lord Thomas and Lord Edward Seymour, through the machinations of Dudley, aftewards Duke of Northumberland. Lord Edward Seymour, the Protector, gained the name of the "good Duke of Somerset." Somerset House was erected by him.

Dudley was the son of Henry VII.'s unpopular minister, the lawyer of that name. His insatiable ambition sought to place

the wife of his son, Lord Guildford Dudley, on the throne, after the death of Edward VI., 1553. The piety, the excellencies, and beauty of Lady Jane Grey, have made her the object of the veneration of all parties. She was the great granddaughter of Henry VII. through the Suffolk family, and her claim to the throne was founded on a law which Northumberland had induced Edward VI. to make, which set aside the rights of the Princesses Mary and Elizabeth. Mary, on her accession, sentenced the youthful pair to be beheaded—Lady Jane on the Green, Lord Guildford on Tower Hill. The proposed marriage of Queen Mary to Philip, King of Spain, gave rise to the rebellion of Sir Thomas Wyatt, which brought many captives to the Tower (those who have left autographs in Queen Elizabeth's Armoury amongst them). The Princess Elizabeth herself was suspected by Mary of being in correspondence with Sir Thomas, and was committed to the Tower, where she was treated with considerable rigor. Mary even forbade the visits of some little children, who delighted in bringing the captive princess flowers. Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer were all imprisoned in the Tower before their martyrdom at Oxford; and the dungeons were filled with those who suffered for the faith. Elizabeth's accession, in 1558, was hailed by the nation with joy. The most remarkable prisoners during her reign are mentioned in the accounts of the Beauchamp and Devereux Towers.

THE 5TH PERIOD, THE STUARTS.—The Tudor race becoming extinct at the close of Elizabeth's brilliant career, the Stuarts succeeded to the throne; but this line of kings was never in sympathy with the genius of the nation.

The convulsions into which society was thrown by the country's efforts to free itself from a yoke to which it could not bend brought many captives to the Tower; but at length the ungenial rule was rejected, and James II. left England's throne to the possession of his gifted son-in-law, William, Prince of Orange.

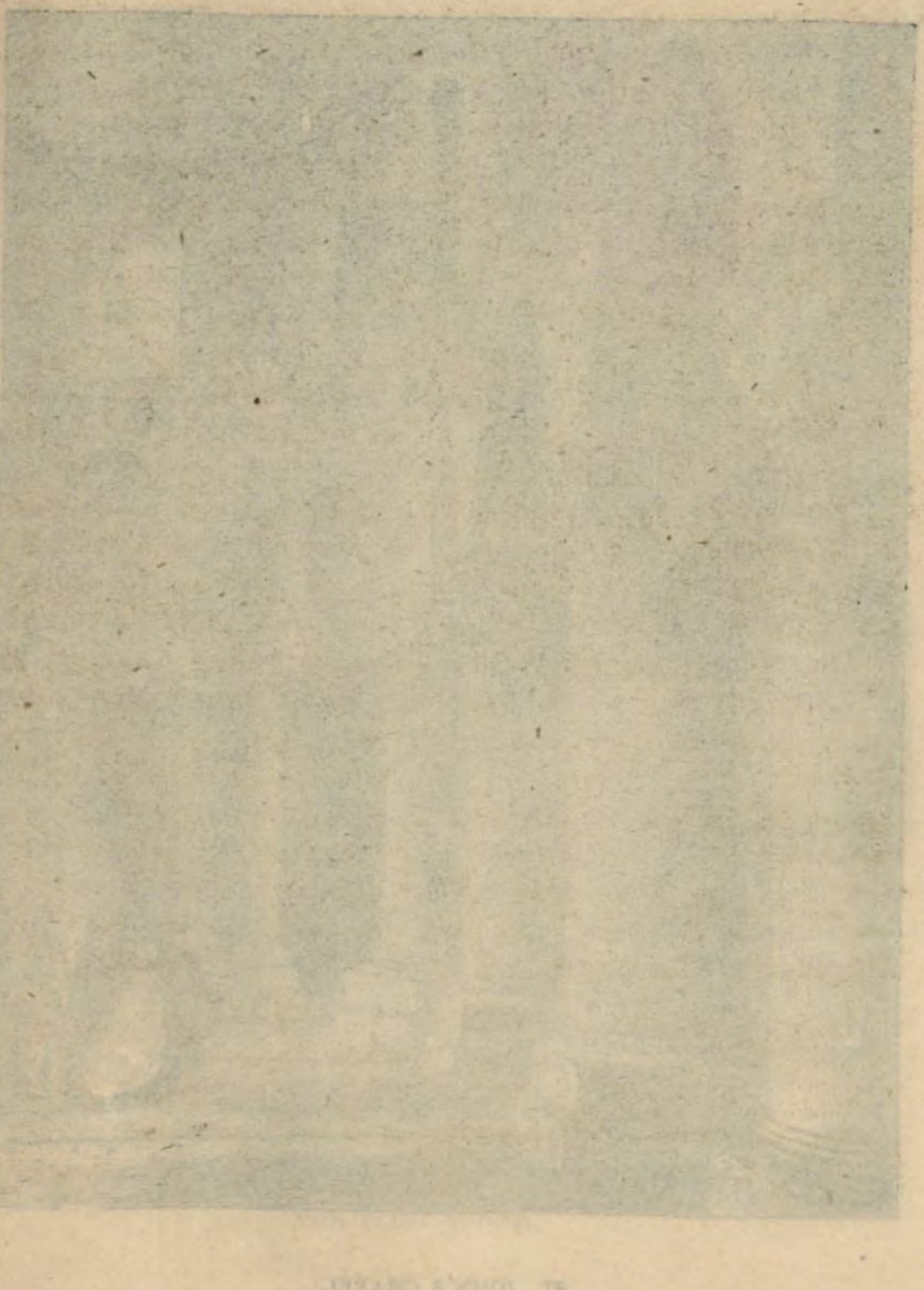
Sir Walter Raleigh claims our first notice in James I.'s reign. He was committed to the Tower, on *suspicion* of his being implicated in a plot to place on the throne of England the Lady Arabella Stuart, the niece of Mary, Queen of Scots. This lady was imprisoned for presuming to marry; made her escape with her husband, was re-captured in Calais roads, and died in 1616 in the Tower, her reason having given way under the pressure of trial. Sir Walter Raleigh was released from a twelve years captivity the year of her death. He was sent to Guiana, in South America, to search for gold mines; but, failing in this, was on his return remanded to the Tower, and beheaded, 1618—it is said to please his enemies the Spaniards, whose favor was sought by James, his son, Prince Charles, being about to be united to the Infanta of Spain. Sir Walter's prowess had too often defeated the Spaniards for them not to rejoice in his ruin. His talents as a warrior, a statesman, and an author, were great. Amongst the victims brought to the Tower by the

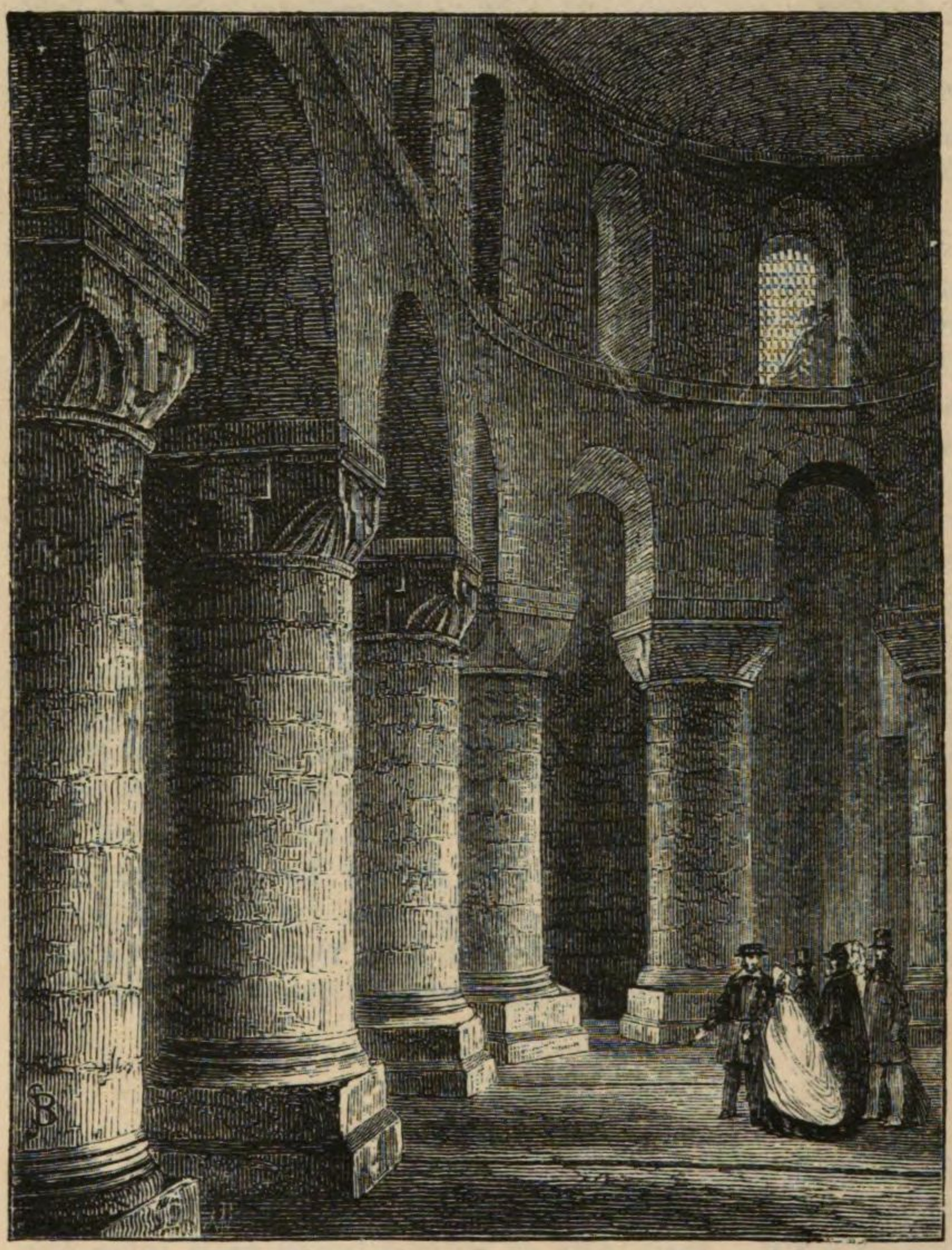
long struggle between Charles and his parliament, we can only mention the eminent statesmen, Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, who was sacrificed in the endeavour to stem the torrent of popular opinion, which was rushing towards revolution; and who was beheaded, to the intense grief of his sovereign, 1641. Also Archbishop Laud, who was charged with aiding Charles in his unconstitutional measures, with preaching that the king's prerogative was above all law, and with seeking to introduce popery again into the Established Church. The aged prelate died on the scaffold in 1644. During the Protectorate of Cromwell, the Tower was crowded with persons suspected of favoring the cause of Charles II.; and, after his restoration, many who had been concerned in the death of Charles I. suffered imprisonment and death. In James II.'s reign, the Duke of Monmouth was induced by the prevailing disaffection to lay a claim to the throne, which he founded on the plea of the validity of his mother's marriage to his father, Charles II. After being defeated at the battle of Sedgemoor, 1685, he was captured and brought to the Tower. One fortnight after he was beheaded on Tower Hill. Seven bishops were imprisoned during this reign in the Tower for opposing James II.'s attempt to restore popery in England. The Judge Jeffries, the notorious abettor of that king's tyranny, on the abdication of his master, was brought to the Tower, and ended his life there in captivity.

Two more convulsive efforts were made by the rejected race in 1715 and 1745, when that unhappy family made their expiring effort to recover the forfeited kingdom. This last struggle once more stained Tower Hill with blood. As Sir Simon Burley's was the first, so let us trust that the names of Balmerino, of Kilmarnock, and of Lovat, will be the last recorded as having perished on that sad spot. These three Scotch lords were beheaded on Tower Hill in 1746, for favoring the pretensions of the Prince Charles Edward, grandson of James II.

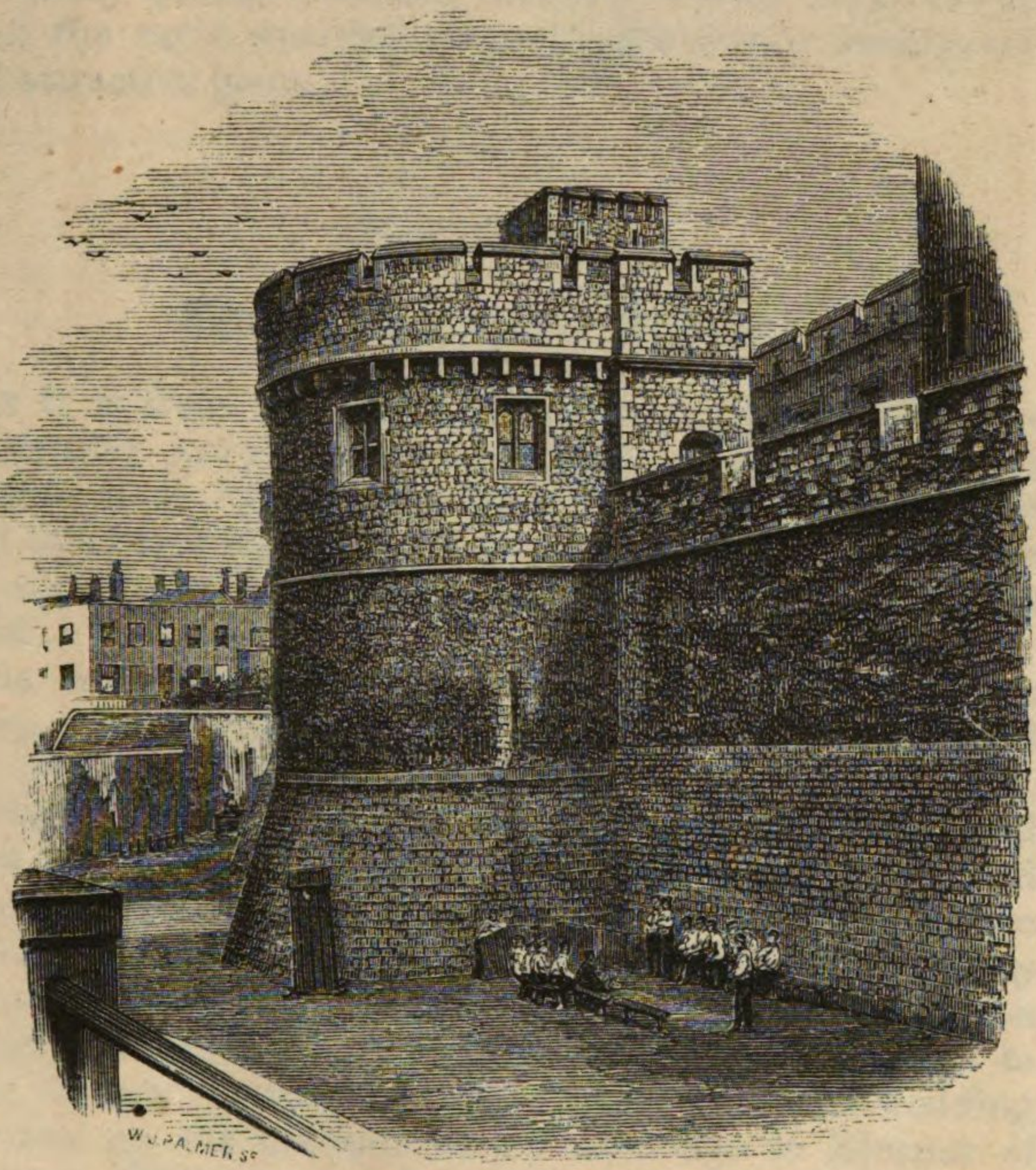
St. Peter's Chapel.

The records of the prisoners will appropriately close with a notice of the spot where the bodies of so many of them are even now mouldering in the dust. The present chapel was erected in the reign of Edward I., 1272, on the site of a much handsomer church built by Henry I., 1100. The present is a plain stone building, consisting of a nave and one side aisle. It is devoid of ornament, but the simple structure contains that which awakens thoughts of deep and solemn interest. Here rests in peace the revered and beloved Lady Jane; and with her, many less exalted, but, perhaps, not less worthy martyrs. Here the dust of a Northumberland and a Norfolk instruct us that grasping





ST JOHN'S CHAPEL.



THE FLINT TOWER.

ambition often only raises itself on the loftiest pinnacle to experience the deeper fall. Here, Thomas Cromwell, the noble Earl of Surrey, the good Duke of Somerset, the brilliant Devereux, Earl of Essex, the place where once lay the body of Sir Thomas More, combine to teach that the loftiest talents, the most exalted virtues, are no security against the loss of fame, of liberty, and life. And the once lovely queens who also moulder within these vaults, repeat the same warning respecting woman's beauty and most attractive grace.

CHAPTER IV.

The Tower as a Palace.

Since it is from the past that this venerable pile derives its peculiar attraction, the slightest sketch would be defective if it failed to point out the spot where once stood this royal residence of our kings, who all, up to the time of Charles II., occasionally held their court in the Tower.

The numerous halls, galleries, and gardens of the palace, occupied the space (marked in the plan by a dotted line) between the south-west corner of the White Tower, the Hall or Record Tower, the Salt Tower, and the Broad Arrow Tower. A grand suite of apartments, appropriated to our queens, extended from the Lanthorn Tower to the south-east angle of the White Tower; and in the vicinity of the Record Tower, hence called the Hall Tower, was a magnificent hall. Henry III. demanded forty fir-trees to repair it, and it was the scene of magnificent wedding festivities on the occasion of his marriage to Eleanor of Provence. This monarch bestowed much care and expense on this and other apartments in the palace; indeed, the whole fortress was indebted to him for much of the splendour and importance it possessed in early ages. He caused one of the palace halls to be painted with the story of Antiochus. The Chapel Royal, in the White Tower, was the object of his attention, and was the scene of many a pompous religious ceremonial in this reign. Edward III. often held his court in the Tower; and that most noble of knights, Edward the Black Prince, having captured John, King of France, at Poitiers, 1356, the royal

prisoner entertained Edward III. and all his court in the great hall of the palace. A scene worthy of that age of chivalry!

The ancient chronicles of the kingdom bear ample witness to the gorgeous magnificence of the scenes which occasionally gilded the Tower's gloomy walls. But there is a peculiar sadness in their glittering splendour, for each has a background of coming woe!

July 16th, 1377, saw the youthful Richard II., in the innocence of early age, issuing from these palace gates splendidly apparelled in white robes, and surrounded by a brilliant retinue of nobles. He was on his way to Westminster Abbey, to receive a crown which, after twenty troubled years, he was to acknowledge himself unable to retain, and which he was to resign into the hands of an usurping cousin in this very palace; and then to await in his dungeon a violent death!

In the year 1390, Richard invited the chivalry of Europe to be present at a grand tournament, at which an old author states "there issued from the Tower sixty knights on coursers apparelled for the jousts, and sixty ladies of honor richly apparelled and mounted on fair palfreys, each leading an esquire by a silver chain;" but the pageant passed, and Richard went onward towards his gloomy fate!

Gay tournaments were given from time to time in the Tower, and doubtless many of the suits of armour we shall look upon this day in the Horse Armoury have formerly shone in the lists, when the Tower has been filled with the nobility, the chivalry, and the beauty of England. Henry VII. held a magnificent tournament in the Tower in 1501, on Prince Arthur's marriage.

In 1487 the palace was graced with the presence of the beautiful Elizabeth of York, daughter of Edward IV., and queen of Henry VII. On her coronation day she passed from the Tower on her way to Westminster, arrayed in white cloth of gold, her fair hair hanging down her back, and her head adorned with a circlet of gold richly adorned with gems. Sixteen years after, another procession passed from the Tower in honor of Elizabeth—but her wedding garments were exchanged for a shroud. The birth of her little daughter Catharine had proved fatal to her, and the only honors she could now receive were funereal. Elizabeth lay in state twelve days in the royal chapel

within the White Tower, where the ladies of the court and the men-at-arms kept mournful watch through those dreary November nights. According to the custom of the age, that beautiful structure was made what the French call a chapel "ardente"—that is to say, the windows and arches were lined with rows of lights, whilst in the choir stood an illuminated hearse containing the royal corpse.

The unparallelled magnificence of the reception which Henry VIII. gave to all his queens in these regal halls previous to their nuptials, and the brilliancy of their coronation processions, seem a cruel mockery when we remember their subsequent fate.

The river Thames was a scene of unprecedented pomp on the 29th of May, 1533, when Henry VIII. received the beautiful Lady Anne Boleyn at the postern of the Tower. The Lord Mayor and his civic train, arrayed in scarlet, with large gold chains round their necks, had escorted her in their gay barges from Greenwich; and she landed "amidst the great melody of trumpets and divers instruments and a mighty peal of guns." Next day she proceeded from the Tower with "all the pomp of heraldry and pride of power" to Westminster, arrayed in silver tissue, and a mantle of the same lined with ermine, her dark tresses flowing down her shoulders, and her head encircled with precious rubies. "Queen Anne Boleyn was tall and slender, her face was oval, her hair black, her complexion rather pale, her features and figure symmetrical—beauty and sprightliness sat on her lips, and in readiness of wit she was unsurpassed."

Thus all was bright to Queen Anne in 1533. How was it with her in May, 1536? On the 1st day of that month a splendid tournament was held at Greenwich, at which the king and queen were present. Henry abruptly quitted the gay scene, and the following day, whilst Anne was dining, officers arrived with a warrant to commit her to the Tower. The gates of the palace in the gloomy fortress once more opened to receive Queen Anne; but her glory had departed—she came attended by her jailers; her fair fame foully aspersed, to await in captivity the fearful scene which in a few days was to cut her off from all that she held most dear. She inhabited the same royal apartments, the queen's lodgings, which were the scene of her triumph before her coronation. The bright past must have thrown into fearful contrast the gloom of the present. Anne was

not allowed to see the king after he quitted her at Greenwich. She was arraigned before her uncle, the Duke of Norfolk, in the great hall of the palace, charged with unfaithfulness to Henry. She manifested much dignity and composure in the presence of her judges. They pronounced her guilty! She heard her sentence with a serene countenance, and lifting up her hands and eyes to heaven, she exclaimed—"O, Father! O, Creator! Thou who art the way, the truth, and the life! Thou knowest I have not deserved this death!" On the 19th of May, a mournful procession passed over the Tower Green—Anne was on her way to the scaffold. She was attended by two or three of her faithful maidens, and her attire was black. Those who were eye witnesses of the scene record that her beauty on that day was mournfully brilliant. After addressing a few calm words to those around, she laid upon the fatal block her head, which the executioner severed from her body with one stroke of his sword. She was thrust into an old chest, and was immediately placed in the vaults of the chapel, in front of which the scaffold was erected. Thus closed the brilliant career of Anne Boleyn!

The royal residence in the Tower is brought again into equally mournful but less painful interest, in 1553, by the ten days reign and subsequent martyrdom of the Lady Jane Grey.

Fuller affirms that she had "the innocence of childhood, the beauty of youth, the solidity of middle, the gravity of old age, the learning of a clerk, and the life of a saint, all at eighteen." She was the great granddaughter of Henry VII., and she fell a victim to the rapacious ambition of her husband's father, the Duke of Northumberland, the son of the lawyer Dudley, who was a chief instrument of the oppressions by which Henry VII. filled his coffers. Queen Mary had resolved to spare her lovely cousin's life; but the rebellion of Sir Thomas Wyatt, in which they were judged to have taken part, led Mary to doom the youthful couple to a violent death. Lady Jane's husband, Lord Guildford Dudley, was executed on Tower Hill, and the same day the saint-like Jane entered into rest.

Queen Mary, accompanied by the Princess Elizabeth, made a grand entrance into the Tower after the defeat of the Dudleys, and held her court there, both before and after her coronation. Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne was hailed by the nation with great delight, which

expressed itself in the magnificent display made in her progress from the Tower to Westminster. The queen did not ever afterwards reside in the Tower. King James I. occasionally held his court there. At the coronation of Charles II. the ancient custom of proceeding in state from the Tower to Westminster was observed for the last time. But at least it departed in splendour: the taste and magnificence displayed surpassing even the former gorgeous spectacles. A contemporary writes—"it is in vain to attempt to describe the ceremony, so far from being *utterable*, it was almost *inconceivable*." From the time of Charles II. may be dated the decay of the Tower as a royal palace. Happily it was no longer needful for Britain's beloved sovereigns to retreat for safety within the walls of a fortress!

The Regalia.

THE Crown Jewels, it appears from the ancient records, were first kept in the Tower of London in the reign of Henry III., 1216–54. After the restoration of Charles II. they were removed from a building near the White Tower to the Martin, thenceforth called the Jewel Tower. In 1842, the new Jewel House, in which they are now exhibited, was completed for their reception.

Jewels require the concomitants of royalty, of beauty, and of grandeur, with which they are ever associated in our thoughts, to be seen in all their lustre. Still, the splendour of this magnificent display of gems will strike the visitor, even in the simple apartment in which they are preserved.

During the confusion which prevailed after the death of King Charles I., all the royal ornaments and the portion of the Regalia which were kept in Westminster Abbey were scattered and sold. Amongst these were the ancient crown of St. Edward, an orb, and some sceptres. It was decided, after the restoration, to appoint a committee to direct the re-making of these portions of the Regalia. The old names and fashions were retained.

THE COLLECTION IS SURMOUNTED BY

1. The Crown of our own beloved Sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The cap of purple velvet is enclosed in hoops of silver, surmounted by a ball and cross, all of which are resplendent with diamonds. In the centre of the cross is the "inestimable sapphire;" and in front of the crown is the heart-shaped ruby, said to have been worn by the Black Prince.

2. St. Edward's Crown. The form is familiar to us as that

which is represented in the royal arms and on the coin of the realm. This crown is made of gold, and is embellished with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, pearls, and sapphires.

3. The Prince of Wales' Crown is formed of pure gold, unadorned with jewels. It is placed before the Seat in the House of Lords which is occupied by the heir apparent.

4. The Ancient Queen's Crown is used at coronations for the Queen Consort.

5. The Queen's Diadem. This was made for the consort of James II., Marie D'Este. It is richly adorned with large diamonds and pearls.

1. St. Edward's Staff. Is of beaten gold, 4 feet 7 inches in length. It is surmounted by an orb, *said* to contain a portion of the true cross. It is carried before the king or queen at the coronation.

2. The Royal Sceptre, or Sceptre with the Cross, is placed in the right hand of the sovereign at the coronation by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Formed of gold, the pommel and cross are adorned with jewels.

3. The Rod of Equity, or Sceptre with the Dove, is placed in the left hand of the sovereign at the coronation. It is of gold, surmounted by an orb, on which is the figure of a dove with expanded wings. It is ornamented with diamonds.

4. The Queen's Sceptre is smaller than the former, but of rich workmanship, and adorned with precious stones.

5. The Ivory Sceptre was made for James II.'s queen, Marie D'Este. The tradition that it was the sceptre of Anne Boleyn is without foundation.

6. Another richly wrought golden sceptre, supposed to have been made for Mary, Queen of William III.

IN ADDITION TO THESE CROWNS AND SCEPTRES ARE

1. The Curtana, or pointless Sword of Mercy.
2 & 3. The Swords of Justice, temporal and ecclesiastical.
These are borne before the sovereign at coronations.

The Coronation Bracelets and Spurs, the Anointing Vessel and Spoon, all used at the coronation. This spoon is supposed to be the sole relic of the ancient Regalia. The golden salt cellar is of beautiful workmanship. It is called a model of the White Tower.

A Baptismal Font, used at the christening of the royal children; various dishes, spoons, and other articles of gold, used at the coronation; and a beautiful service of Sacramental Plate, used at the same august ceremony.

LONDON:—J. WHEELER, 3, CHURCH TERRACE, BERMONDSEY.

BSB Bayerische StaatsBibliothek
MDZ Münchener DigitalisierungsZentrum Digitale Bibliothek

Harman, A.

Sketches of the Tower of London, as a fortress, a prison, and a palace

London [1867]
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